



TOP GLASS

Industrial heritage is unearthed by dig



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BEER CHEER

Holden's Brewery celebrates 100 years



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Council's apology for closure of venue

A SENIOR councillor has apologised after shows at Dudley Town Hall were postponed because the venue must remain closed until late March.

The venue has been shut because of urgent repairs required to the ceiling.

Rearranged dates have been announced for All Star Superslam Wrestling, Soul Survivors, The Good Old Days of Music Hall and veteran comedy star Ken Dodd.

The Stand Up for Tommy Mordon hospice fundraiser (see page 5) on February 17 and Shine Concert on February 24 have both been moved to Brierley Hill Civic Hall.

Culture boss Councillor Hilary Bills said: "Our contractors have made an initial inspection of the work that needs doing and have advised us the hall needs to close until the end of March. "We apologise to people for any inconvenience during this unforeseen but essential work."

Superslam has been moved to October 29. The Soul Survivors gig has been moved from February 21 to December 5 and The Good Old Days of Variety is now on October 13. Comedy veteran Ken Dodd had been due to appear at the venue on March 7 but his show will now take place on June 20.

Victory after pub petition

PLANS to build a convenience store on the car park of a pub have been rejected.

Hundreds signed a petition opposing New River Retail's £1 million plan to build a Co-Operative store next to the Haden Cross Inn, Halesowen Road, Cradley Heath.

The company said the proposal would not alter the pub but customers were concerned at the reduction in parking spaces. Sandwell Council rejected the firm's proposal, despite the potential for 20 new jobs.

CLUB'S GOAL IS TO EXPAND

AMBITIOUS plans have been unveiled to increase the capacity of Stourbridge Football Club's ground as the club aims for promotion.

The Northern Premier League club has submitted plans for new stands and to alter existing areas for spectators at the War Memorial Athletic Ground — thanks to a cash boost from their FA Cup exploits.

The ground, which the team shares with Stourbridge Cricket Club in Amblecote High Street, already has a 2,000-capacity to meet current league rules.

But officials need to upgrade areas around stands to improve standards as the club aims for promotion to the Football League Conference.

A revamp programme is already under way costing £50,000 on re-laying areas around the ground to improve hard-standing.

Double

If the club is promoted to the Conference Premier, bosses have long-term ambitions to double the capacity of the ground to 4,000 to meet standards.

This would involve putting seating in the Shed End stand, currently a covered terrace.

There would also be a 250-seat stand put at the Church End alongside a standing area for 900 fans.

Club chairman Andy Pountney said that the works were only possible thanks to the club's thrilling recent runs in the FA Cup which brought in tens of thousands of pounds.

The Glassboys made the First Round Proper of the FA Cup during the 2009/10 season before losing out to Walsall 1-0. And the club

by Dominic Bareham

beat League Two outfit Plymouth Argyle 2-0 at Amblecote in front of the TV cameras to reach the second round proper in 2011/12.

The run was finally ended by League One side Stevenage who won 3-0 in front of an attendance of 3,067 at the War Memorial Athletic Ground, when the club boosted capacity with temporary stands.

Mr Pountney said: "The cup runs have been a massive boost and they have helped us a lot as there had been no developments at the ground for 40 or 50 years.

"These plans for the extra stands are early days and are only if we are successful and win promotion."

A statement from the club — contained in the planning application that has been submitted to Dudley Council — states: "Stourbridge FC are an ambitious club and aspire to reach higher leagues in the 'pyramid' and thus, these even higher leagues will have a larger requirement regarding numbers of spectator capacities."

The site already has a clubhouse, toilet block, fast food cabin, turnstiles and cricket pitch.

The height of the stands would not be increased.

Hat's the way to do it in Wonderland



All set for Wonderland — Helen Hollis, Shelby Chillington, Nicholas Round, Tate Wolverson and Samantha Hollis

AUDIENCES can enjoy a trip down the rabbit hole to Wonderland as an amateur dramatic group takes to the stage with its latest show.

The Rainbow Pantomime group will be performing their version of Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland at the Dormston Mill Theatre in Sedgley from Sunday.

The cast of more than 30 have been rehearsing since September with regular sessions at both the Coseley School and at St Bernadette's church, Wombourne.

The show promises to be a real family affair with several mother

and daughter combinations on stage. Among them will be Rosemary Thomas who is appearing on stage alongside her seven-year-old granddaughter Ava Bennett for the first time. Rosemary is in the adult chorus, while Ava is appearing with the junior chorus and dancers.

Dora Woolridge, a founder member of the group launched 25 years ago said: "The family will be very proud on the opening night. We also have several mother and daughter combinations in the cast and fathers are also involved, although that is mainly on backstage or front of house duties.

We pride ourselves on being a family orientated company."

Mrs Woolridge, of Wombourne, said: "Things have gone very well with the production and we are all looking forward to the opening night."

Rainbow Productions raised more than £2,000 for the Teenage Cancer Trust with last year's production.

Alice in Wonderland will be staged from Sunday, when there will be a matinee at 2.30pm, to be followed by evening shows from Monday to Saturday with curtain up at 7.30pm. There will also be a matinee on the Saturday. Call 01902 894472.

Counter protest to EDL IS planned

A PROTEST is being planned to counter a demonstration by the English Defence League in Dudley.

Black Country Unite Against Fascism (UAF) is organising the action in response to the EDL's planned march on the town centre on Saturday, February 7.

More than 700 supporters of the EDL are expected to show in protest at a new mosque planned by Dudley Muslim Association.

The UAF says its members will assemble in Stone Street Square from 11am, and remain positioned in the town centre until the EDL leaves. It has the support of Dudley Trades Union Council and the Muslim community.

In a statement, Black Country UAF spokesman Jerry Langford said: "The EDL are coming to Dudley to ferment hatred, division and stir up racism.

"Wherever the EDL have turned up, we have seen drunkenness and fighting with random attacks on property, places of worship and people of ethnic minority background."

Four years ago violence erupted when the EDL last held a protest in Dudley.

Police have warned that violence will not be tolerated.

● Thugs sent to prison — see page 3

Teens held after crash

FOUR teenagers were arrested after a car smashed into an insurance firm in Sedgley.

The Audi A4 hit the wall of Life & General Insurance Consultants on Bilston Street at around 2am on Monday.

Two girls and two boys — who are all aged 16 — were arrested at the scene on suspicion of stealing the vehicle.

One of the four was taken to hospital but was returned to police custody.

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CONTACT US

Have you got a story or an event you want covered? The Chronicle and Express & Star have a team of reporters covering Dudley who can help:

Heather Large: 01384 353203
heather.large@expressandstar.co.uk

Alex Ross: 01384 353207
alex-ross@expressandstar.co.uk

Andrew Turton: 01384 353202
andrew.turton@expressandstar.co.uk

Lee Watton: 01384 353230
lee.watton@expressandstar.co.uk

Charlie Benton: 01384 353201

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Sports:
Tel: 01902 319453. e-mail: chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk

Photographic
Tel: John Sambrooks 01902 319431

Advertising

Sue Jones
Tel: 01384 399901
E-mail: sue.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

Motoring:

Liz Barratt
Tel: 01384 353244
E-mail: liz.barratt@expressandstar.co.uk

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Paul Jones
Tel: 01902 319990
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Suspended sentence for energy fraud

A FRAUDSTER who claimed he could get compensation from energy companies but pocketed people's cash has been given a suspended jail term. Shaun Morris received £34,000 from 310 people across the West Midlands.

He was handed £100 to £150 each time after saying he could get unrealistic amounts of cash back from big suppliers on a 'no win, no fee' basis after putting adverts in newspapers. But the 45 year-old kept the money and was aggressive to some customers when they wanted to pull out, Stafford Crown Court was told.

Morris pleaded guilty to three counts of fraud by false representation, two counts of engaging in aggressive commercial practices and one of engaging in unfair practice between September 2012 and October 2013. Morris, of Birch Road, Stone, was given a two year prison sentence, suspended for two years, and ordered to carry out 200 hours of unpaid work.

Mr Tony Watkin, prosecuting, said Energy Compensation Bureau had been established by Morris in Stafford in 2012, but he had no expertise or experience.

Victims included Susan Homer

from Dudley, who was told she could get up to £2,000. She then spoke to her energy supplier and told Morris she wanted to cancel a meeting. He then started "ranting" at her and invoiced her £65.

Mr Peter McCartney, defending, said the father-of-two who previously served in the armed forces and construction industry had exaggerated the level of compensation.

Entrepreneur spirit is thriving in borough

Help plea to scrap dealers



Help needed to clear site — project manager Mick Freer in the historic garden

VOLUNTEERS restoring an 18th century walled garden are looking for scrap metal dealers to assist them

The group is clearing the grade one-listed garden at Leasowes Park in Halesowen after taking ownership last year. They want to restore the garden to its former beauty and then reopen it to the public by the summer. But face clearing six unwanted green houses, a huge metal boiler and two cabins.

Group leader Mick Freer is asking for help. He said: "We're looking for some friendly scrap metal dealers who can come in and take away the buildings, green-houses and boiler. They are too big for us to dismantle but I'm sure they would be worth something to a scrap dealer."

The team have launched a Leasowes Walled Garden Appeal and are searching for sponsors. Members are spending their free time clearing up the site, which had been targeted by vandals. It was last used by Birmingham Metropolitan College but has been unused for several years.

Rubbish removal is taking too long

ENVIRONMENT Agency officials have been accused of being 'slow to move' on a £750,000 clean-up of a towering mound of rubbish in Brierley Hill.

Robert McNaughton, director of Refuse Derived Fuel Ltd director, served a jail term for failing to comply with a court order to clear the site in Moor Street. But the Environment Agency continues to struggle to get the 19ft high rubbish pile cleared.

The agency has been granted a writ of sequestration from the High Court, allowing officials to seize assets from Mr McNaughton and the company, which campaigners want used to clear away the waste.

Councillor Rachel Harris said the process was taking too long. "The EA have been quite slow to move to sequester the funding to get this rubbish shifted," she said. "The council in the meantime is doing its best. We are trying to control the rat issues. The residents wantsomething done now."

Environment Agency manager in the West Midlands, David Hudson, said bailiffs had also been sent to Mr McNaughton's home as the agency reviews what assets can be seized.

Man is facing murder charge

A 32-year-old man has appeared in crown court charged with the murder of Baljit Singh, who was found in the basement of a house in Beeches Road, Rowley Regis, on New Year's Day.

Mr Singh, aged 50, had been missing since December 23 from his home in Birmingham.

Stuart Millership, aged 32, of Beeches Road, is accused of killing Mr Singh.

He appeared at Wolverhampton Crown Court last week and was remanded in custody and to appear at the same court for plea and case management on April 1.

Player's funeral

THE funeral of Wolves FA Cup winner Jimmy Dunn will be held on Wednesday, January 28, at Streety Crematorium, at 2.15pm.

Mr Dunn, who scored 40 goals in 143 appearances for Wolves 1941-52 and was a 1949 cup winner, died aged 91.

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Attempted murder charge for schoolboy

A 14-year-old schoolboy has appeared in court charged with attempted murder after a man was stabbed on a Dudley bus.

The youth, from Dudley, is accused of stabbing a 29-year-old man aboard the Number 1 bus in Burton Road on January 2.

He faces a further charge of wounding a 19-year-old woman that is related to the same incident.

At Wolverhampton Crown Court on Friday, the boy — who cannot be named for legal reasons — spoke only to confirm his name.

Custody

He was remanded in custody and is due to appear at the same court for a plea and case management hearing to be held on March 27.

A provisional trial date has been scheduled for June 15.

Police are still appealing for anyone who was on the Nol bus at around 9.25pm on January 2 to contact Detective Sergeant Phil Pullinger in Force CID on 101.

Alternatively, people can call the Crimestoppers line to give information anonymously on 0800 555111.

Petition call for grit box

ELDERLY residents living in maisonettes in Sedgley are calling for extra gritting to protect them from falling on ice.

People in Ettymore Close have signed a petition for a grit box to be introduced closer to their homes. They currently have to go up several flights of steps to get to the nearest grit box.

MEP and Dudley councillor Bill Etheridge has handed the petition to Dudley Council. He said: "I am deeply concerned someone could be badly hurt in the attempt to access the grit bin in Uplands Road.

Roadworks due

MOTORISTS have been warned to expect delays on a road leading into Oldbury.

Roadworks have begun in Park Lane, which leads onto busy Oldbury Ringway, with temporary traffic lights in place.

The work is expected to be completed by Tuesday.

EDL thugs sent to prison after violence in city

SEVERAL English Defence League supporters have been jailed after thuggish behaviour in Birmingham city centre

Violence flared at a protest in July 2013 which turned the city centre into a battleground as pavings slabs and bottles were thrown in horrific clashes with police.

Yobs also torched a Muslim prayer cap and Pakistani flag during the disorder in the city's main entertainment district, around Broad Street and Centenary Square.

Operations were conducted across the

Midlands and further afield to arrest those believed to be involved in the disorder.

People were arrested from as far afield as West Sussex and Tyne and Wear, having travelled to the West Midlands to take part in the demonstration. Six defendants came from the Black Country.

Message

Superintendent Richard Baker said: "Violence has no place on the streets of Birmingham, regardless of motivation or

whatever cause people are supporting. This should send a clear message to those who are intent on coming to the West Midlands to cause trouble — we will not tolerate such behaviour."

Among those sentenced was Jake Hill, aged 32, of Church Street, Stourbridge, who was jailed for 22 months. A court hearing last month heard how he pushed a policeman and was part of crowd which attacked four officers trapped between two vans.

Lee Joshua, 43, of St Marys Court, Brier-

ley Hill, received a 16 month sentence. He was said to have been at the forefront of attempts to break through police lines.

Thomas Wilkie, 23, of Kent Road in Wednesbury was jailed for 18 months after kicking out at a police officer.

Also sentenced were Mark Connor, 25, of Tantara Street, Walsall, who received 22 months in prison; John Warrender, 28, of Oakdale Close, Oldbury, got 15 months; James Olley-Shields, 22, of Hanbury Hill, Stourbridge, was jailed for 12 months.

Probe urged into repeat calls to ambulance service

A EURO MP has called for an investigation into nuisance 999 calls after it emerged paramedics were called to one property in Stourbridge more than 200 times in 12 months.

West Midlands Ambulance Service was called to an address in the town 231 times for 'falls', according to details revealed through a Freedom of Information request.

The service revealed its paramedics and ambulance crews were called out 5,000 times to the same 30 addresses in the region.

Another property in Birmingham's Shard End area was visited on 653 occasions with only 11 of the call-outs resulting in anyone being taken to hospital. In one incident, the paramedics were forced to race to the address to discover the resident merely had a headache.

West Midlands MEP Bill Etheridge, also a councillor in Dudley, urged authorities to look at the issue.

"Without knowing the personal circumstances of the caller it would be unfair to make a judgement but it seems to me either the person involved has a serious health condition, in which case they have been let down by the authorities, or they are a malicious prankster," said the UKIP MEP.

"Either way there should be an investigation into the caller and either better care provided or criminal charges brought for wasting the emergency services time.

"Our emergency services

By Andrew Turton

are over stretched as it is this kind of problem must not be tolerated or accepted as it could easily put lives at risk. Irresponsible prank callers are literally playing games with people's lives and should receive the most severe punishment the law allows."

The figures, obtained by a Freedom of Information request, do not reveal specific addresses due to data protection laws.

A spokesman for West Midlands Ambulance Service said: "The trust is aware of a number of high-volume service users who regularly call the ambulance service.

"Some people do suffer from complex health-related disorders that, at times, require emergency intervention on a regular basis. Although this may appear to be a 'misuse' of resources it is indeed entirely appropriate and embraces the ethos of delivery of high-quality patient care."

Euro MP is former cricketer

THE newly appointed Conservative MEP for the West Midlands has paid tribute to his predecessor.

Former professional cricketer Daniel Dalton automatically replaced the late Philip Bradbourn, who died in December following a battle with cancer.

No by-election was held because European Parliament rules any vacancies are filled by the next person on the political party's list of candidates from the last election.



Employment Minister Esther McVey eyes up the desserts at the Stourbridge hotel

Sweet choice on job scheme

A GOVERNMENT minister believed she had the perfect recipe to help the region's young unemployed during a visit to a new hotel and pub restaurant in Stourbridge.

Esther McVey, minister of state for employment, visited the Premier Inn and Brewers Fayre in Birmingham Street, where she met some of the 16 employees who had graduated from a Government-backed scheme called Sector-based Work Academies.

The Wirral West Conservative MP also took a tour of the hotel and eyed up some tasty cakes in the restaurant. The aim of the Government initiative is to provide unemployed youngsters with training in the hospitality sector and the chance to have a jobs taster for a number of weeks, with a guaranteed job interview.

A total of 60 jobs were created at the site, which opened on December 18.

Two of the graduates spoke to the minister about their experience on the scheme. Joshua Pagett, aged 20 and Samantha Taylor, 18, Mr Pagett, of Kingswinford, had been unemployed for a year. He said: "The big difference the job has made for me has been the boost in confidence."

NEWS IN BRIEF

A&E crisis eases after 'worst' week

THE crisis sweeping across accident and emergency departments has started to show signs of improvement, hospital bosses said.

Manor Hospital in Walsall and the Royal Stoke University Hospital downgraded their major incident status.

New Cross in Wolverhampton, Russells Hall in Dudley, and Sandwell General Hospital all said their situation had become more manageable.

It comes after NHS bosses branded last week as the 'worst' they had seen in 30 years.

Third suspected arson incident

FIREFIGHTERS tackled a third suspected arson at an industrial park in three weeks.

A crew from Stourbridge was called to the fire at a workshop at the site off Saltwells Road in Brierley Hill on Saturday afternoon.

The workshop was made of corrugated iron and timber and was well alight when firefighters arrived to tackle the blaze at around 2pm.

They took 25 minutes to deal with the fire.

Dinner date for Crafty Cockney

A FORMER world champion darts player will be taking on guests at a sporting dinner in Brierley Hill.

Eric Bristow, known as the Crafty Cockney, will also be speaking and taking part in a question and answer session at the event run by Sports Talk Events at the Copthorne Hotel on June 18. The event, from 7pm, also includes a two-course meal.

Call 01902 244220.

1,000 chase 300 paramedic jobs

RECORD numbers want to become paramedics with more than 1,000 applying for 300 student posts with West Midlands Ambulance Service. Spokesman Steve Parry said: "The next stage will be to shortlist applicants before assessment and interview. We are aiming to have the first of our new recruits on training courses by March."

Club is hit again

HALESOWEN Town FC has been hit by a second break-in in five months as thieves made off with £1,000 worth of grass cutting equipment last week — when fans are raising cash to revamp The Grove.

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CHOP down laurels. Chop down apple tree. Chop down hydrangeas. Burn the lot in the brazier. Slash, hack, burn, burn, burn. Gardening. It's a man thing. But only in January.

A FEW days ago I wrote about the curious veil of silence which has descended on the Scottish bin-lorry tragedy. Six people were killed on December 22 when the lorry careered along the pavements of Glasgow. Yet all has gone very quiet. The city council says it will never identify the lorry driver or crew. Now, a senior Scottish lawyer says it could be years before the bereaved and injured are told what happened. He condemns Scotland's fatal-accident inquiry process as flawed and "bordering on inhumane." So far, no decision has even been taken on whether an inquiry will be held. You might imagine that Scots would be demanding answers to this appalling national tragedy. But the majority of comments I can find online insist the authorities know best and all will be sorted out eventually. I can only conclude that folk have more faith in their lords and masters north of the border than we have down here.

BACK in August I asked, in my cynical old way, whether William Pooley, the Ebola nurse, would feature in the New Year Honours List for risking his life to save the lives of others - "or does he have to sing pop songs, row a boat or ride a bike very fast as well?" In fact Pooley got nothing. Honours went to an actress who can impersonate Cilla Black, a fashion designer who invented the mini skirt 50 years ago, and to Joan Collins, presumably for being Joan Collins for all these years. Fine priorities, eh?

IN Wednesday's Thought for the Day (Radio 4) an Anglican bishop, Nick Baines, delivered a little homily, condemning protests in Germany against "the Islamisation of the West." He asked: "Why is it that in such matters, perception is so much more powerful than reality? Why is it that the fires of fear are so easy to stoke?" Five hours later Islamist gunmen burst into the offices of a satirical magazine and slaughtered a dozen Parisians. You were saying, Bishop . . . ?



MY item on the 30th anniversary of the mobile phone reminds an ex-cop of the happy days when these huge, expensive cellphones were used mainly by the media and criminal gangs. They were also dead easy to intercept, using scanners. He recalls endless hours of listening in on thug-chat which suddenly produced the whispered gem: "Seven, tomorrow night, the post office."

MORE tales from BM (Before Mobiles). A reader, inspired by the 30th anniversary of the first mobile-phone call, remembers the era when a colleague carried a bag of mints and humbugs for the specific purpose of bribing receptionists to allow him to use their phone to call his head office. He remembers getting his first mobile phone as "blissful". And what about the bliss of being able to bribe a receptionist with a humbug? Those were the days.

WASTE not, want not. Full marks to SpaceX, the American company aiming to recycle damn great parts of its space rockets by dropping them many thousands of feet out of the heavens and "soft-landing" them on a sea barge on the Atlantic. Not sure I'd want to be the skipper on that boat.

SO how's Dry January coming along? Missing a nice glass of Merlot yet? Aching for a pint of ale? I spotted this headline yesterday on a feature about alternatives to alcohol: "Soft drinks so tasty you won't miss booze." Oh, yes you will. No pop yet invented can compare with Mother Nature's oldest comedy double-act, the Brothers Ferment and Distill.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

£3k bill for sending child to fit camp

DUDLEY Council has spent almost £3,000 sending an obese child to a fitness camp.

The unnamed child, aged between 11 and 16, was sent for help last year.

The council is the only one in Birmingham and the Black Country to commission such a service.

Dudley's health boss said it only happened in 'exceptional circum-

stances' and after necessary health checks had been carried out.

A total of 760 children in Year 6 are classified as obese in the borough. In reception, 363 children are obese. The figures come from the National Child Measurement Programme.

Councillor Rachel Harris, cabinet member for health, defended the council's spending.

"We find that tackling the issues that lead to obesity is cheaper and more sensible in the long run.

Lifestyles

"This is about enabling a lifestyle change to prevent long term health conditions and future pressures on health services.

"We also provide full support to the family including nutritional

and healthier lifestyles advice. Only in exceptional circumstances, and following medical checks to identify any underlying health issues, would we take the step of referring a child to a focussed camp."

She added: "We also work with the family on longer term changes to help when the child returns home, which has proven extremely successful."

Improved meals for hospital patients

PATIENT meals are being revamped at Russells Hall Hospital with menus offering a wider choice being rolled out across the wards.

Concerns about food not being hot enough has prompted Interserve, which provides the meals, to invest £500,000 on trolleys which will be able to warm plates.

A survey in 2013 showed that only 44 per cent of patients were happy with what was being served up at the hospital. Since then bosses have been working to make improvements.

For lunch and supper, patients now have the choice of four hot meals, four cold options, six side dishes, and a variety of both hot and cold puddings.

This is in addition to the 24 hot dishes available to pre-order from the special menu which includes gluten free, dairy free, vegan, vegetarian and halal options.

A trial has taken place to get the views of patients and unpopular meals have been dropped.

Chief executive of Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust Paula Clark said: "Our new inpatient menus are already in use in four ward areas — ward B4, ward C5, children's ward and our medical high dependency unit."

Salmonella in chocs fear

ALDI has issued a product recall after salmonella was found in a batch of chocolate on sale in stores.

The supermarket chain is recalling its 200g packs of Chocour Treasures with a best before date of September 1 2015.

Salmonella was detected in one batch of the product, which consists of hazelnut wrapped in waffle and milk chocolate. The batch has been on sale in Aldi stores in the Midlands only.

The Food Standards Agency say Aldi is advising customers not to eat the chocolate.

Laundrette plan

PLANS to convert an empty shop into a laundrette have been lodged.

Jahan Dad has submitted proposals for the business in High Street, Brierley Hill.

A decision on the change of use application will be made by Dudley Council within three months.

FOUR in 10 Black Country youngsters are overweight when they leave primary school, new figures show.

And around a quarter are already overweight by the time they are just four years old.

Public Health England has released the shocking figures, for which Dudley and Wolverhampton tops the fat league in the West Midlands.

In the Black Country and Staffordshire, the figures tower above the national averages, particularly for 11-year-olds.

In London, around 33 per cent of children are overweight when they leave primary school, but in the Black Country this rises to around 40 per cent.

Obese

Dudley is joint-worst in the West Midlands for fat four-year-olds with 26.4 per cent deemed overweight or obese, the same as in Wolverhampton.

In Walsall this figure is 24.1 per cent and in Sandwell it drops to 21.8 per cent.

All four Black Country areas hover around 40 per cent for overweight 11-year-olds, with Wolverhampton the highest on 41.8 per cent but Dudley is the lowest on 38.6 per cent.

Jane DeVille-Almond is a senior health lecturer at the University of Wolverhampton and also chairs the British Obesity Society. She said it was no surprise that the

by Tim Spiers

Black Country was above the national average in the obesity league and explained that the figures reflected an ongoing trend.

"As with any industrialised community where people historically eat foods with a high percentage of fat it's difficult for people to change their dietary habits," she said.

"There's a clear link between poverty and deprivation — it's nothing new.

"In Wolverhampton it would be wonderful to show we can turn it around. We need to show the rest of the country we can do it.

"We've got a generation of kids who haven't watched their parents cook meals or families sit down to eat together. That needs to change."

Public Health England released the child obesity figures as it launched its Change4Life campaign to encourage parents to cut down the amount of sugar their children eat or drink.

South Pacific at Mill

WOLVERHAMPTON-BASED Phoenix Theatre Company will be performing its second show in Sedgley next month.

The Rodgers and Hammerstein classic musical South Pacific will be staged in the Mill Theatre at Dormston School, Mill Bank, from February 3 to 7.

There will be 7.30 performances each day and a 2.30pm matinee on the Saturday.

Tickets are available by calling 01902 897520 or e-mailing info@phoenixtheatreco.co.uk

The company made its debut a year ago with Olive, which was also performed at the Mill.

Josh born on the pavement



Alex Smith and Keiron Haddleton with baby Josh, born yards from the hospital doors

GIVING birth alone on a freezing pavement at 4.20am is no one's idea of the perfect delivery. But Josh Haddleton just couldn't wait to come into the world.

His mother Alexandra Smith gave birth yards from the entrance of Russells Hall Hospital. Her partner Keiron Haddleton had hurriedly gone into the hospital to get help. While he was inside Miss Smith, from Rowley Regis, gave birth to her third child.

She wrapped her newborn baby in her coat and held him close, trying to shield him

from the icy air. The 29-year-old, of Bryan Budd Close said: "I just tried to keep him warm, holding him like a rugby ball. It was scary but when I saw Keiron coming I knew it would be OK and help was coming."

Miss Smith said that when she felt the baby coming two hours earlier at home on December 30, she assumed she would have a long wait ahead as had been the case with her other two children. Josh, who weighed 6lb 3oz, was allowed home the following day.

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Reward is offered to catch car vandals

MORE than 50 cars were targeted in a vandalism spree over four days in Dudley and victims are now putting up a reward to catch the culprits.

Bricks were thrown through rear windcreens and tyres slashed as the vandals caused thousands of pounds of damage to dozens of cars in Kingswinford, Gornal and Sedgley.

Officers say it is too early to say if the incidents are all linked but they are not ruling it out and believe a dark coloured estate car may be involved in a large number of offences.

Meanwhile, a £200 reward for information has been put up for information which leads to the offender being caught.

One woman who lives in Redstone Way in Lower Gornal said all tyres on both her cars were slashed on her driveway in the early hours of Christmas Eve.

Five other cars were damaged in the road, plus vehicles in Sandstone Close and Holloway Street, from December 24 to 27.

The campaign to find the culprits has been backed by Upper Gornal and Woodsetton's Councillor Dean Perks. Police are looking at CCTV footage.

Park to get path network

A £70,000 project to create a series of new footpaths through a Cradley park has been approved. The work will be carried out at Homer Hill Park to improve access for its many visitors.

Council leader Pete Lowe has agreed to include the project in the authority's work programme.

The five new paths will be made in or around the perimeter of the park and will join up with the existing network of walking routes.

Some of the cash has come from the sale of the former crematorium lodge in Chase Road, Lower Gornal.

New dance venue

WEDNESDAY evening dance venues were due to start again at Dudley College, Broadway Campus, this week after a change of venue. The dances had been held at Dudley Town Hall but a new venue was needed when the hall was closed for urgent repairs to the ceiling.

Motorway coach crash driver banned and fined

A COACH driver has been banned from driving after he fell asleep at the wheel and crashed off the M5 while carrying dozens of Black Country children.

Robert Blakemore, 60, from Wolverhampton, was driving 53 passengers from Dudley, Wolverhampton and West Bromwich, on a day out to the seaside, when the coach veered off the motorway into a ditch in Gloucestershire in August last year. HE pleaded guilty to driving without due care and attention at Stroud Magistrates' Court last week.

SEVEN people – one child and six adults,

including Blakemore – suffered minor injuries during the incident.

The coach was operated by Lye-based Prospect Coaches.

It had been taking a group of youngsters from Bright Futures Children's Centre in West Bromwich for a day out at Weston-super-Mare.

Licence

Children and teachers from across the Black Country had been looking forward to the day at the Somerset resort.

Blakemore was seen by passengers to

have his eyes shut and chin resting on his chest at the time of the crash, magistrates were told.

He told the court that he was currently on sick pay and unable to work because of a broken leg suffered in the crash.

He added that losing his licence would mean he would lose his job.

The coach was operated by Lye-based Prospect Coaches. It had been taking a group of youngsters from Bright Futures Children's Centre in West Bromwich for a seaside day out at Weston-super-Mare.

In witness statements, three passengers

said Blakemore woke when the coach was drifting towards the hard shoulder and a girl screamed, Stroud Magistrates' Court heard.

No mechanical defect was found with the coach and breath tests indicated he had not been drinking. Mr Blakemore, who is diabetic, said he 'did not black out'.

He was handed a 15 month ban, fined £165 and ordered to take an extended test.

Two of the other Prospect Coaches travelling to Weston continued on to the seaside, while another turned back to the Black Country.

House sharing scheme is designed for young people

A SCHEME helping young people to find their own home has been launched in Dudley.

A new shared housing programme will be trialled in central Dudley and Lower Gornal, tailored to the needs of young people aged 18 to 35. Dudley Council is running the pilot scheme in partnership with Black Country Housing Group and Churches Houses Association of Dudley and District.

DVLA delays need to be investigated

DUDLEY MP Ian Austin has called on the Government to act after unearthing evidence of soaring delays in DVLA applications.

Figures released at the request of the Dudley North MP revealed a total of 185 people had been kept waiting six months before their application was processed during 2013/14, ten times as many as the previous year.

The Labour politician launched an investigation after receiving complaints from his constituents, including some who said they had been unable to drive for six months.

More than 8,500 complaints have been made against the organisation during 2014/15, it was revealed.

Mr Austin has written to Transport Secretary Patrick McLoughlin, urging him to investigate the matter. He said: "These delays are unbelievable. I've heard from local people who haven't been able to drive for six months because for delays to their application. This isn't just a minor inconvenience. I've told government to get to the bottom of this."

Self-contained rooms will be available in shared houses, specifically for young people. They will be provided with their own private bedroom with an en-suite bathroom, bed and small fridge. Some may also have a microwave and kettle.

The rest of the house will be shared with other tenants, who will have a shared kitchen and in some cases a garden.

Lifestyle

A selection and matching process will also look at lifestyle preferences and things such as working hours and sleeping patterns to match potential residents together as house mates.

Housing boss Councillor Gaye Partridge said: "We recognise that many young people want or need to make the move to independent living but struggle to find suitable and affordable places to live. We have developed this shared housing option specifically for young people to test the market."

"If it proves a success we may look to roll the scheme out across Dudley borough."

To qualify for the shared houses people must meet and agree to share with the other selected residents. They must also be aged between 18 and 35 and have lived or worked in Dudley borough continuously for the last two years.

Concert celebrates master of mirth



Barry Smith, Doug Parker, Marlene, Maggie O'Hara, Aynuk and Mel Thomas prepare for the concert at Brierley Hill

MASTER of mirth Tommy Mundon, who died in July aged 80, will be celebrated by friends and colleagues from his 50-year career at a charity show in his memory.

Black Country entertainers Aynuk, Doug Parker and Marlene are just some of the acts on the bill for the show in Brierley Hill next month.

Veteran comedian Tommy died after a five-year battle with Parkinson's Disease. Aynuk, real name Alan Smith, together with friend Doug

Parker had discussed with Tommy a show in aid of Mary Stevens Hospice, which had helped care for him.

Following Tommy's death, the pair together with singer Maggie O'Hara have revived the idea for a show to raise cash for the hospice in Hagley Road, Stourbridge.

Mr Smith said: "I worked with Tommy for more than 50 years and it has been a long time since we have all done a show together but we are going to get back together to help

raise money for the hospice while also remembering Tommy."

The show is at Brierley Hill Civic Hall, Bank Street, on February 17, from 7.30pm. Tickets are priced £12 per person. These can be purchased from the Mary Stevens Hospice Fundraising Office on (01384) 377778 or the box office on 0870 230 7000.

More than 500 well-wishers attended Tommy's memorial service held at Hasbury Methodist Church in Halesowen in August.

Auction bid to cut home energy bills

DUDLEY Council is urging residents to take advantage of a scheme to save on energy bills.

The council's big switch campaign is part of a national initiative which sees energy companies bidding at auction to offer the best tariffs to residents who participate in the council co-ordinated scheme. Residents then have the option of switching.

The next auction will take place on February 3 and residents need to sign up before February 2 to take part. Call 0300 555 2345 or visit www.dudley.gov.uk

Group revamp a charity's garden

AN engineering group has overhauled the outdoor space at a charity's centre for disabled children in Lye.

Caparo Industries is supporting KIDS, the national charity for disabled children and young people. The business, which has more than 40 sites nationwide including Stourbridge, Wolverhampton, Oldbury and West Bromwich, provided the charity's Orchard Centre with funding and support for its garden improvement.

Thousands apply for firefighter jobs

MORE than 3,600 people applied for 50 firefighter jobs with West Midlands Fire Service.

Officials say they are staggered by the figures which also revealed 5,917 people initially registered their interest in the positions during the recruitment drive. It comes as the service has lost 275 firefighters in the past four years as a result of £22 million cuts in funding.

Trains in demand on heritage line

MORE than 30,000 passengers climbed aboard steam trains along the Severn Valley Railway for the heritage line's Christmas specials.

The railway is now closed while essential maintenance work is carried out on the Bridgnorth to Kidderminster line and will reopen for half term, from February 14.

Bus fleet revamp

SCORES of new buses will be on the road across the West Midlands in coming weeks.

National Express West Midlands is investing £34 million on 171 new British built buses.

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It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people



I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews

KATIE Hopkins, the one-time Apprentice candidate who now plies her trade trying to offend as many people as she possibly can with vitriolic comments on Twitter, surely hit a new low with her diatribe about Pauline Cafferkey.

Pauline is the Scottish nurse who contracted Ebola after taking part in an aid mission to help sufferers in Sierra Leone.

Whatever one's views of the mission, the risks involved, or the screening process for people returning from Sierra Leone, referring to somebody whose life is in grave danger as a "sweaty Glaswegian Ebola bomb" is surely beyond the pale.

And, I would venture to suggest, a nurse who has put her life on the line to help save others, demonstrates far more courage than somebody whose main claim to fame is appearing on a television reality show and making snide remarks about northern car salesmen.

Nevertheless, I'm totally with Hopkins when she says the police should have better things to do than become embroiled in the row about her online bile.

Defend

Detective Inspector Glyn Roberts of Police Scotland said: "Inquiries are ongoing into the nature of these tweets and to establish any potential criminality."

What? Inquiries are ongoing? Her rant consisted of 19 words. How long does it take to investigate that?

And how can there possibly be any criminality in a few rude words about the Scots' propensity to perspire?

Hopkins has hit back, saying 'the freedom to say only things that are polite is no real freedom of speech at all', and while it pains me to say it, the old trout has hit the nail on the head.

The French philosopher Voltaire famously said: "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."

And the police – not to mention the 'hundreds' of people who complained about her tweets – would do well to take that on board.

Most right-thinking people will disapprove of what Hopkins has to say on many things.

She makes her living trying to gain people's disapproval, and of course they play right into her hands every time they rise to the bait.

But if we really do value the freedom of speech which we have taken for granted for centuries, we must all defend her right to be rude and unpleasant.

Det Insp Roberts should have told the hundreds of complainants to get a life – and then instructed his officers to catch some real criminals instead.



Mr Dury holds a find while looking over the site of the dig



The Webb Corbett Factory and cone in the 1940s



Decorative glass bottle stops that were found

Through looking glass into the past

Stourbridge was at the centre of the glass industry, CHARLIE BENTON looks at relics recently found

DEDICATED volunteers have spent hours sifting through tons of soil to uncover an array of hidden gems from Stourbridge's glass industry heritage.

An eight-month long excavation on the site of the Ruskin Mill Glasshouse College has unearthed examples of glassware dating back hundreds of years and evidence of two of the region's earliest furnaces.

Now some of the window glass, bottles, tiles, cut lead crystal and carriage lantern lenses which have been dug up will be going on public display.

Stourbridge was once the epicentre of the UK's glass-making industry, renowned the world over for its high-quality glass products since the early 1600s.

The remains of furnaces discovered at the site would have been in the shape of distinctive cones similar to the Red House Glass Cone that stands in nearby Wordsley. Such glass cones once dominated the skyline of the area. The two found at the Ruskin site date back to 1691 and 1692 respectively.

The site forms part of The Glasshouse, formally known as the Ruskin Glass Centre, which serves as a working homage to the glass trade.

The dig was carried out by volunteers as well as 90 students from the college in Wollaston Road with special educational needs.

Among the items uncovered are bottles which date back to the 1700s, decorative glass from the 1850s and clay pipes.

Glass heritage director at the college Ian Dury, aged 61, of Kinver, said: "It has been amazing and what we have dis-



Glass Heritage Officer Ian Dury with finds from the college dig in Stourbridge

covered is a time capsule of glass making on the site for the past 400 years so we really did find all sorts of things, from windows to bottles.

Condition

"Although of course a lot of the pieces were shattered, the glass itself was in very good condition as once it is underground it stays quite stable."

Many pieces will now be put on display.

Mr Dury said: "We had archaeological and glass specialists take a look

at what we found and they were very impressed. Although we put a lot of it back, there were a lot of pieces that will be kept. Some of it will be sent to museums and some of it will be kept at the college itself.

"In May we will be holding a special international glass festival and it would be great to display it then."

He added: "We found lots of window glass, lots of pieces of bottles and tiles and decorative glass."

"Anything that can be made in glass has been made here for 420 years. The

first cones were built in 1691 and 1692 and then they built another cone on top of it.

"The main facility was built in the 1930s. It has constantly been in use as a glass making facility for 400 years."

"It is a timeless art, the same equipment that was used then is still used today."

Mr Dury, originally from South Wales, said he has been working in the glass industry for almost 50 years.

He said: "It was absolutely fantastic to be a part of the dig. The funding we received from English Heritage and the National Lottery allowed us to do a lot of research to find out just what we were digging up."

"There were over 16 glass cones in the area alone at one stage and it has enriched the area so much."

Ruskin Mill stands on the site of the former Webb Corbett glassworks which operated between 1913 and 1969.

It was taken over by Royal Doulton which operated until it was sold in 1999 to the Ruskin Mill trust.

Mr Dury has paid tribute to the work of volunteers who turned out to help. He said: "We started the dig in February last year and we had funding from English Heritage and National Lottery."

"For the first couple of weeks I was tasked with finding volunteers and although I was worried initially I shouldn't have been, as we had so many people come out to help us dig."

"We have 90 students with special educational needs here at the college, they have absolutely loved doing it and taking part."

"The first two weeks was all about getting volunteers from elsewhere, I was concerned at first but the turnout was amazing. There were more than enough volunteers and other schools came out and got involved."

"We are also interested in inviting schools to come along and take a look at what we found. The glass that was made here can be found in all sorts of places."

WEEK IN POLITICS

with Daniel Wainwright

FOUR million conversations are what the Labour party's leader says it must hold between now and polling day.

Between them, shadow chancellor Ed Balls and shadow work and pensions secretary Rachel Reeves clocked up a few of those in Staffordshire and the Black Country this week.

With no party commanding an overall majority in the Commons, the run-up to the May 7 General Election is going to be something of a level playing field between Labour and the Conservatives.

They both need to hold on to every seat they won last time and to win even more if they are to avoid another compromise-laden coalition.

Both are losing votes to other parties, specifically UKIP, the Greens and the SNP (north of the border, obviously).

Hence Miss Reeves played the consolidation game in Dudley North, the most marginal Labour seat in the Black Country while Mr Balls headed for Cannock Chase.

The latter was the scene of a symbolic defeat, at least in numerical terms, for Labour. It's where the Tories saw the largest swing to them in 2010.

It contains, in theory, the largest proportion of voters who were prepared to desert one party for its arch enemy. If Labour can win this back, it stands to reason it can win back others as well.

In the 1990s we had Essex Man, the typical voter described as 'working class, father, electrician, right-wing, keen hanger, noisily rambunctious, no subtlety'. Then Tony Blair came up with another type of voter, the so-called Mondeco Man.

"His dad voted Labour," he said. "He used to vote Labour, too. But he'd bought his own house now. He'd set up his own business. He was doing very nicely. 'So I've become a Tory', he said. In that moment, he crystallised for me the basis of our failure. His instinct was to get on in life. And he thought our instincts were to stop him."

In both Labour visits to the Black Country and Staffordshire, the front-benchers met apprentices. Under Mr Blair there was a drive to get half of young people into higher education. Now there's a renewed interest in apprenticeships to give employers the skilled workforce they need.

While Mr Balls was tinkering around on a go-kart with two student mechanics at South Staffordshire College it occurred to me that Cannock Mechanic could well determine the outcome of this election.

Whether it's the young voter or their parent or grandparent, all of them want to know if the younger ones are going to have a chance to get on in life, get a job and make a contribution. The big debate will be how that happens. The parties have just under four months to convince us.

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Fox hunting is nothing but barbaric

WITH regard to the letter in the Chronicle by Mr Waldron of Dudley where he makes statements and opines (yes, opines) certain things regarding fox hunting and the column by Peter Rhodes.

Mr Waldron can opine on anything he likes but the fact is that ten years ago a big majority of MPs voted to outlaw fox hunting. Fox hunting is nothing but barbaric blood lust practised by a small section of the population. It has nothing to do with the defence of chickens or lambs. It is purely to satisfy some people's desire for a fox to be

Speeders are being punished

FURTHER to recent letters criticising speeding drivers, it was a surprise to see the figure of 91,138 people caught speeding in 2014.

Maybe those drivers we see going too fast are not getting away with it after all. Interesting that since a lot of the big yellow boxes have been switched off, more offenders than ever have been caught. This proves the problem with fixed cameras that they only slow the traffic for a few yards. Now mobile cameras and unmarked cars are being used.

I would say to drivers, even if you are not bothered about road safety, it is important to realise that one offence will increase your insurance costs, two offences and you will find it impossible to purchase insurance from many companies and also car hire will be difficult.

Also many jobs ask for a clean driving licence, so take it easy, save fuel, save wear on your car, and maybe even save a life.

R WILLIAMS
Brierley Hill

torn to pieces by a pack of hounds, or a stag being butchered or a badger being baited.

Mr Rhodes, who has every right to call his home whatever he likes, suggested it may be 'political suicide' by David Cameron to attempt to bring back hunting with animals. A poll last year suggested well over 70 per cent wished the ban to be kept. Mr Waldron begins his reference to the columnist as Peter Rhodes and later, rather disdainfully, as Rhodes. Not exactly good manners.

S HUNT
Dudley

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
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Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

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GP appointments cause A&E crisis

IS it any wonder our NHS is overwhelmed with people going to hospital accident and emergency departments because they cannot get to see their GP?

To see your GP you have to be prepared to wait a fortnight because of an appointment system that is just not working.

Not too long ago all people had to do when they were sick was to attend their doctor's surgery and sit and wait their turn.

Then the experts got involved and came up with the great idea of an appointment system.

All this has done is to cause a bottleneck with a flood of patients all trying to get through a funnel of that bottle.

Surely it would be bet-

ter had the old systems not been deemed unfit by these so-called experts.

After all, that system worked far longer than this system we have now, which is in crisis after just a few years.

Not all new systems are good.

All it takes is for those who made the decision to admit they were wrong and revert to the trusted and well-tested system.

This would then free up our hospital accident and emergency departments to a workable and reliable service — one that is wanted by the general public.

P LOWE
Brierley Hill

Not classed as vermin

J B Waldron claims that the majority of the population is in favour of the repeal of the fox hunting ban. I would like to know what he bases that assertion on. Most of the people I know have exactly the opposite opinion.

I would also like to know how often he has lambs or chickens destroyed by foxes.

The fox is not officially classed as vermin and is part of our natural eco-system, which is more than you can say for the plague of domestic cats that live by me.

I agree that we should let the people who manage our countryside choose the best way to manage 'pests', but even many of the people who enjoy fox hunting would not claim that it is a particularly efficient way if eradicating foxes.

ALAN ASHMAN
Sedgley

Police cars need clean up

YEARS ago, all police cars, fire engines and ambulances used to be kept in a very clean condition. Nowadays, only the fire engines look presentable.

Unless a police car is to be used by a senior officer, the cars and ambulances are a disgrace.

With the number of 'hand car washes' that are now on our streets, do the police and ambulance services have any excuses? Surely someone in authority at these services can 'do a deal' if small cars can be washed for about £3 and 4x4s for £6.

P COLE
Kingswinford



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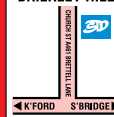
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Denis Briscoe stacking the beer ready for delivery to pubs in 1967



Andy Stokoe cleans kegs at Holden's Brewery



The offices above the bottle shop at Holden's Brewery

Brewery hails 100 years with ale trail

A BREWERY has thrown down the gauntlet to real ale lovers as it launches its centenary celebrations.

Holden's Brewery will challenge punters to get a round in at each of its pubs across the Black Country.

The real ale trail will begin in the spring as the Woodsetton-based brewery kicks-off a range of events to mark its 100th anniversary.

Those who complete the tour of the firm's 20 tenanted pubs will then be able to swap their completed card for Holden's centenary memorabilia. The family-run brewery will also host tours, starting from February.

The arrival of the brewery's centenary year comes as an expansion of the site is nearing completion.

A new tank room will be completed during 2015, increasing capacity at the Sedgley Road West site by 50 per cent, which bosses said had been possible thanks to a boom in the ale trade. One of the

MEMORY LANE

By Richard Guttridge

stops on the Holden's tour will be the Rose and Crown in Brierley Hill and landlord Mark Pritchard believes the idea will drum up interest in the area.

He said: "It's a popular brewery around here. This pub is still a busy little pub and I do think it will make a difference."

"Round here it is a real ale area, it's so popular, especially when they bring out their own monthly ones."

"They tend to go down really well. I think the tour is a really good idea."

Francis Britton, who runs Holdens pub The Wheatsheaf, in Carter's Green, West Bromwich, believes the tour could come as a major boost.

She said: "Anything that gets more people in is a good idea. Hopefully this can help. All pubs need more customers at the mo-

ment and anything that increases the likelihood of people coming in is good."

"Ale is a good seller, the pub is known for having real ale. Locally it does well."

Despite the bleak outlook for the industry in recent years which has seen pubs continue to disappear from Black Country streets, Holden's has been able to buck the trend and invest in the future.

When the expansion is complete, ale production will increase from 50,000 pints a week to 75,000.

Popularity

The extension has been built at the rear of the site in George Street and will see extra fermentation tanks installed. A new bottle store was also completed in 2012.

When the plans were revealed, managing director Jonathan Holden said: "There has been a resurgence in the popularity of ales in recent time and this has been a massive benefit to us."

"This expansion is necessary for us to build on the business."



Jonathan Holden in the new fermentation plant

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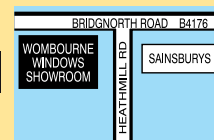
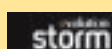
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Atomic pair form school of rock



Martin Warlow and Dan Norton, of Ned's Atomic Dustbin, tune up for their rock school in Wolverhampton

BUDDING musicians can now learn how to play instruments in true school of rock fashion. Atomic Sounds Music School has been set up by rock musicians Dan Norton and Martin Warlow, who have both been members of Stourbridge band Ned's Atomic Dustbin.

The school will be giving lessons in guitar, bass, key-

board, drums and vocals. Dan said: "We want to give kids a solid grounding in rock music." Martin added: "We are authentic rock musicians and that will hopefully be exciting for a young kid who wants to pick up a guitar."

Atomic Sounds Music School is at Big Deal Music, Salop Street, Wolverhampton. Visit www.atomic-sounds.com

Learner driver in chase

A LEARNER driver led police on an 11-mile high-speed chase after officers tried to stop him, a judge heard.

Jordan Ricketts hurtled through red traffic lights, went round a traffic island the wrong way and mounted the pavement in a bid to get away, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

The 21-year-old, who had three passengers on board as he reached speeds

of 60mph, was finally halted when police used a 'stinger' device to burst the front tyres of his Renault Clio. Mr Matthew Brook, prosecuting, said the 16-minute pursuit started when he raced away from officers who had indicated he should pull over near the Merry Hill Centre on November 12.

Mr Simon Hanns, defending, revealed that Ricketts had owned the £1,000 car for a year without a full licence. Mr Hanns added: "He acted out

of sheer panic." Ricketts of St Georges Road, Dudley, admitted dangerous driving and having no licence and no insurance. He was given an 18-month prison sentence suspended under supervision for two years and ordered to do 150 hours unpaid work. His car has been seized.

Judge Amjad Nawaz said: "This was extremely foolish behaviour. It is down to good fortune that no damage or injury was caused by your driving."

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More are urged to have a say on cutbacks

DUDLEY Council wants more people to have a say on the services which matter most to them, as bosses consider almost £60 million worth of cuts.

About 2,700 people have so far responded to a consultation after residents were asked to name their top five council services they thought were most important - from rubbish collections to children's services.

The council is proposing savings of £22.9m for 2015/16, moving up to £25.3m by 2016/17 and £27.4m by 2017/18.

However, the authority has warned that a further £30m of savings will also need to be found.

Consultation

It wants to minimise their impact by focusing on the services which are seen as the least important to everyday lives.

Councillor Stuart Turner, cabinet member for finance, said: "We would urge people to have their say in our Big Question budget consultation before the closing date on January 25."

He added: "We've been really pleased with the response so far as nearly 2,700 people have already taken part but we want as many

people as possible to have their say."

"We're having to set budgets on the back of huge cuts in our funding from central government, so we are asking the residents we serve to take a moment to let us know their top five most valued services."

The budget proposals so far include a shake-up of Dudley youth services to save £200,000.

There are also plans to increase burial fees, turn off some street lights after midnight and reduce park maintenance.

Savings will also be made by transferring the management of the New Bradley Hall care home in Kingswinford to a private firm.

People can take part by visiting www.dudley.gov.uk or by using #dudleybudget on Twitter.

Nominate unsung heroes for awards



Mayor of Dudley Councillor Margaret Aston at the launch of this year's civic awards for unsung heroes

MAYOR of Dudley, Councillor Margaret Aston, is urging people to highlight the work of unsung heroes across the borough for prestigious civic awards.

Community activists, inspiring teachers, entrepreneurs, athletes and environmental champions will be recognised in the Mayor's Civic Awards.

People can nominate those who go above and beyond the call of duty in their communities for one of the awards but the deadline is February 9.

There are six categories: the Duncan Edwards award for sport, the Cedric Hardwicke award for arts, the Frank Foley award for community spirit, the Thomas Attwood award for education, the Mike Holder award for business and the William Shenstone award for environment.

Councillor Aston said: "The Mayor's Civic Awards is a fantastic opportunity to highlight the work of the people who work tirelessly in their communities for the good of the borough."

Nominate online at dudley.gov.uk/civicaawards or pick up a form from libraries and leisure centres.

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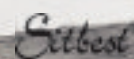
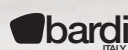
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See the medieval 'olde worlde' charm of Aachen, the most western city in Germany and situated amongst beautiful hills and where the remains of buildings from the Roman times can still be seen.

Koblenz, its name derives from the Latin for confluence, sits strategically where the Moselle and Rhine rivers meet. The city is home to attractive squares, amusing sculptures and plenty of pavement cafes.

The medieval town of Cochem is one of the largest cities in the area and for many years has been one of the commercial centres of the Moselle wine trade. Here, there is the opportunity to take a boat trip from Cochem to Beilstein on one of the famous cruisers.

Explore charming Trier, the oldest city in Germany. During the visit see the Roman amphitheatre, which is one of the most perfectly preserved in the world; the Baths, Basilica and the striking Porta Negra - or Black gate - the largest and best preserved building of its kind in the world.

Bernkastel, probably the valley's most scenic towns, is famous for its wine and in fact possesses the largest single vineyard in Germany.

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PRICE FROM £129

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Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

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Four schools join forces in new trust



Ounsdale High School Sixth Form principal Christine Brown, Edgecliffe High School headteacher Chris Rogers, Ellowes Hall Sports College headteacher Alan Jasper, Invictus Academy Trust Executive Headteacher Andy Griffiths and Crestwood School Head Tony Bowles

ONE of the highest performing schools in Dudley has formed a trust with three other schools. Ellowes Hall Sports College has formed the Invictus Trust with Edgecliffe High School in Kinver, Crestwood School in Kingswinford and Ounsdale High School and Sixth Form, Wombourne.

The trust will be led by Andy Griffiths, headteacher at

Ellowes Hall, and will allow the schools to collaborate with each other while retaining their own identities.

Mr Griffiths, who will become executive head of all four schools, said: "We were allowed to choose which schools we formed this trust with which I think will create a very successful and elite atmosphere between all four schools."

Council app a download hit

MORE than 1,000 people have downloaded a mobile app which lets them report concerns to Dudley Council.

Dudley Council's app, which was first made available in November, allows residents to send in pictures of potholes, dumped rubbish, faulty street lights and graffiti.

The app also lets council house tenants send in pictures with reports of housing repairs they require.

Councillor Stuart Turner, cabinet member for finance and information and communication technology at Dudley Council, said: "The app is just one of the channels we have introduced to ensure that contacting the council is as easy and convenient as possible."

"We're very pleased that it has been

received so well and we hope even more people will continue to download it and make the most of the services it offers."

The app, created as part of the council's Love Your Community campaign, also keeps residents updated with council news as well as bus and train times.

The app can be downloaded via the App Store for iPhone or the Google Play Store on Android phones.

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Second time yobs attack the Queen's jubilee tree

VANDALS have attacked a tree planted to honour the Queen during her Diamond Jubilee for a second time.

First the beech tree was chopped down and the branches dumped in a park bin. Now the a plaque fitted to the remaining stump in Netherton Park has been destroyed.

Geoff Johnson, chairman of the Friends of Netherton Park, said he was 'disgusted' by the latest attack, which took place on New Year's Day — a week after tree had been cut down.

"I fixed the plaque to the stump in defiance but it has been completely destroyed," he said.

"The top has been ripped off. The plaque was attached to the stump with four or five bands of insulation tape so a great deal of effort has gone in to wrecking it.

"It's mindless vandalism. We can see no reason for it. We're not aware of any vendetta against the park.

"From the plaque, it would have been clear that the tree had been planted for the Queen but whoever is responsible just doesn't seem to care," added Mr Johnson.

The inscription on the

By Heather Large

plaque said 'planted by the Friends of Netherton Park to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty'.

The first vandalism attack took place on Christmas Day — the day the Queen addressed the nation with a message about the importance of reconciliation.

Mr Johnson believed the attack had been premeditated because the tool was taken along to chop it down.

The Jubilee tree, which cost £250, had been planted in 2012 along with an Olympic tree to commemorate the London Games. Both had been targeted by vandals in the past. The Friends group has not decided whether the tree will be replaced due to concerns about possible repeat attacks.

Team's on the ball
for growth with kits



Glyn Marston, with back, from left, Chelsie Guy, Josh Roberts, Lee Walters, Dale Williams, and Liam Marston

PLAYERS at a dodgeball squad have unveiled their new name and kit as part of the expansion of the club.

The Black Country Knights is the new adult team that has grown out of Walsall Warriors. The Warriors remains the name of the junior arm of the club set up by former marathon runner Glyn Marston.

The Knights are celebrating the arrival of their new blue and black shirts. Mr Marston says: "The design of the new shirt is proving quite popular. People from other teams are also ordering one. We're hoping the new shirts will help to raise our profile."

The team plays in the Midlands based Northern Conference Division Two League. "We're always recruiting players, whether they have experience or just beginning everyone is welcome to join us," added Mr Marston.

The Black Country Knights train on Mondays at Willenhall Youth and Community Foundation, in Gomer Street, and on Wednesdays at Portway Lifestyle Centre, in Banbury Road, Oldbury.

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Author's book looks at Zeebrugge tragedy

IT was a tragedy that shook the world.

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Just 23 minutes of leaving the port the ferry capsized when water cascaded into the car deck after the bow doors were mistakenly left open. A total of 193 people lost their lives.

Memories of the disaster have inspired a first book by author Iain Yardley, of Temple Street, Lower Gornal, entitled 'Ninety Seconds at Zeebrugge: The Herald of Free Enterprise Story'.

Mr Yardley had travelled on the Herald of Free Enterprise on a school trip the year before aged 14 and so the tragedy left a lasting impression.

Impact

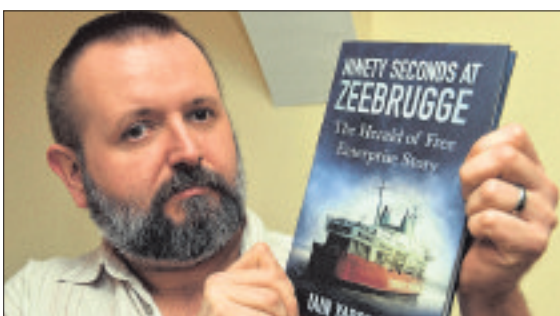
He said: "I think it left such an impact because it was ordinary people like me who died. I could have been on board."

The 42-year-old has spoken to more than 20 survivors, as well as staff from hospitals that treated the casualties, in compiling the book, which took Mr Yardley eight years to write.

To make contact with the survivors, he researched memorials set up in tribute to the victims as well as funds set up in their names. He also put out appeals for people to contact him in the letters pages of local newspapers.

He said: "I just wanted to get it right, which was why it took so long. I could have rehased a lot of information that people already knew but I didn't want to do that. What I really wanted to do was tell the stories that people hadn't read about, or thought about before."

Mr Yardley, who designs and commissions scrap metal furnaces, said



Author Iain Yardley, of Lower Gornal, with his new book about the ferry disaster



Capsized — the stricken vessel after the disaster that killed 193 people in 1987

he there had been a lack of literature available on the tragedy.

A number of poignant stories emerged from Mr Yardley's research into the passengers, such as British Army personnel returning after serving in Germany. One family was returning to be at the bedside of their dying father and another was bringing their baby daughter home to be christened.

Mr Yardley added: "The book is a recalling of the disaster and the immediate aftermath from the point of view of the people who were involved."

A public inquiry was critical of operator Townsend Thoresen and the design of the ship.

The book is available via History Press for £20, online at Amazon for £16.10 or £12 for the Kindle edition.

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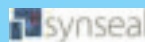


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Gatherings in public places, such as supermarket car parks, have been a bone of contention



The campaign forbids organised car cruising

Injunction putting the brake on car cruising

CAR cruising will be banned across the Black Country after a ground-breaking High Court injunction was secured by Wolverhampton, Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall councils.

The injunction forbids people from participating in or promoting, organising or publicising a "car cruise" anywhere within the Black Country.

Car cruising – the act of drivers meeting on the public highway on either an organised or impromptu basis to race or show off in their cars – is noisy, dangerous and illegal.

Regular gatherings take place at a number of "hotspots" around the Black Country, where up to 250 vehicles and spectators turn local roads into a race track.

They include the Black Country Route and Birmingham New Road in Wolverhampton, Flood Street in Dudley, Bean Road Industrial Estate, Tipton, Hallens Drive, Wednesbury and Brickyard Road, Walsall, as well as public and retail car parks across the Black Country.

Local councils and the police have received hundreds of complaints about car cruising over the last few years,

ranging from vehicles and spectators obstructing highways or residential or business properties, to dangerous driving, excessive noise, littering, verbal abuse and intimidation. There have also been a number of collisions involving vehicles taking part in car cruises.

Wolverhampton, Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall councils, working in partnership with West Midlands Police, secured the injunction from the High Court in Birmingham last month. Anyone suspected of breaching it will be at risk of being in contempt of court, for which an adult can face up to two years in prison and a fine.

Anti-social

Speaking on behalf of the partners, Councillor Elias Mattu, Wolverhampton City Council's cabinet member for leisure and communities, said: "Car cruising has been a bone of contention for residents and businesses for many years.

"The activities are not only wholly anti-social, but also illegal and dangerous, putting the safety of participants and spectators at risk. It's only a matter of time until someone is seriously injured or even killed.

"I am confident this ground-breaking injunction will have a positive impact on the lives of law-abiding people in Wolverhampton, Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall."

Chief Inspector Kerry Blakeman, head of West Midlands Police's Traffic unit, said: "This Black Country-wide injunction will form the backbone of our on-going measures to target people using the road as a racetrack while ensuring the safety of others.

"As well as the obvious dangers of driving at speed on urban roads, car cruising generates a lot of late-night noise nuisance for people living near key routes.

Law abiding drivers can also feel intimidated when they inadvertently find themselves in the middle of a gathering."

Councillor Mattu added: "It should be stressed that we are not seeking to prevent legitimate car enthusiasts from enjoying their hobby.

"What we want to do is put a stop to the menace of car cruising, which is making life a misery for so many people across the Black Country."

● **Anyone who witnesses a car cruise on the public highway or public place is asked to call police on 101.**

Court action

1) It is forbidden for anyone to participate in "car cruising" (as defined in the schedule below) anywhere within the Claimants' combined geographical area known locally as the Black Country Area.

2) It is also forbidden for anyone to promote, organise, or publicise via e-mail, the internet or any publication or broadcast, any "car cruising" within the defined geographical area.

3) A power of arrest pursuant to section 27 Police and Criminal Justice Act 2006 shall apply to clause 1 above.

4) The order and power of arrest shall continue for 3 years following the commencement of this order or until it is varied or discharged by the court. This order shall come into effect at midnight on 2 February 2015 provided that the Claimants have completed certain steps. It shall, subject to further order, expire at midnight 1 February 2018.

5) Personal service of this injunction is dispensed with pursuant to rule 81.8 of the Civil Procedure Rules.

Schedule

1) "Car Cruising" means two or more motor vehicles (including motorbikes) between the hours of 3pm and 7am being on a highway or in a publicly accessible place within the Black Country Area at which any such vehicle or occupant of a vehicle performs any of the prohibited activities listed in clause 3 below which causes, or is capable of causing, any of the prohibited consequences set out in clause 4 below.

2) "Participating in car cruising" means being the driver of, or being carried in (or on), a motor vehicle (including motorbikes) in circumstances in which paragraph 1 above applies.

3) The prohibited activities referred to in clause 1 above are: speeding; driving in convoy; racing; performing stunts; sounding horns/playing music as to cause a significant public nuisance; using foul or abusive language; using threatening, intimidating behaviour towards another person; and causing obstruction on a public highway, whether moving or stationary.

4) The prohibited consequences referred to in clause 1 above are: excessive noise; danger or risk of injury to road users (including pedestrians); damage or significant risk of damage to property; significant risk of harm; significant public nuisance; and significant annoyance to the public.

The full injunction and map showing the geographical area is available at <http://bit.ly/carcrusingban> and council offices.

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Walsall Council





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Blues and classic rock at Robin 2

CLASSIC rock and blues are on the agenda at Bilston's Robin 2 venue.

Twin guitar rock supergroup Snakecharmer are in concert tomorrow (Friday) at the Mount Pleasant venue. The band features original Whitesnake guitarist Micky Moody and bassist Neil Murray alongside guitar ace Laurie Wisefield from Wishbone Ash. Expect such classics as Here I Go Again.

Luna Rossa, the new project by Anne-Marie Helder and Jonathan Edwards of Welsh prog rock band Panic Room, bring their rearranged acoustic show to the Robin 2 on Sunday.

The Aynsley Lister Band, led by the Leicester-born blues guitarist, are in concert on Thursday, January 22.

Family comedy and tale of terror

THE revival of culture clash comedy East Is East is staged at the Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre until Saturday.

Fresh from a run in London's West End, it features Absolutely Fabulous star Jane Horrocks as the mother in an Anglo Pakistani family in '70s Salford, alongside the playwright Ayub Khan Din, as his own creation Pakistani chip shop owner George Khan.

The Frozen Scream, with Rula Lenska, is at The Patrick Centre, Birmingham Hippodrome, until Saturday. Christopher Green and novelist Sarah Walters' play is based on a tale of terror from the 1920s.

Grand gets ready for musical about 'Greatest Show on Earth'

Romance at movies for Sophie

WEST End star Sophie Evans has been announced as the special guest for Britain's Got Talent finalists Richard and Adam's At The Musicals concert on Valentine's Day at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre.

The Welsh singer and actress came to prominence in 2010 when she was named runner-up in the hugely popular BBC series Over The Rainbow. She was later chosen by Lord Andrew Lloyd-Webber to play the alternate Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz at the London Palladium, a role she eventually took over full time from Danielle Hope.

Sensational Welsh singing brothers Richard and Adam are back with their second UK Tour, this time featuring such silver screen classics as Can You Feel the Love Tonight, Goldfinger and Moon River. Tickets for the 7.30pm concert cost from £21 to £27.



Sophie Evans joins singing siblings Richard and Adam

ROLL up roll up for the greatest show in the Midlands when circus musical Barnum makes its Grand arrival in Wolverhampton at the end of this month.

Song, dance and funnyman Brian Conley will be showing his circus skills when this hit revival of the musical about America's 'Greatest Showman' Phineas T Barnum opens a five-day run on Tuesday, January 27.

Barnum was a hit when it opened on Broadway in 1980 starring Glenn Close and Jim Dale. It won three Tony Awards and a Drama Desk Award. When it opened at the London Palladium a year later Michael Crawford gave an award-winning performance.

This production of Barnum opened at Chichester Festival Theatre's Theatre in the Park in July last year and became one of the most successful musicals in the 51 year history of that theatre with a record box office attendance of almost 70,000 people.

The musical follows the irrepressible imagination and dreams of Phineas T Barnum. The story of his life and his marriage to Chairy — here played by Linzi Hateley — reveals a couple who looked at the world from opposite sides of the spectrum. It also reveals that she was the practical one who made Barnum's dreams come true.

The production follows the legendary showman as he teams up with J A Bailey to create Barnum and Bailey's Circus, the Greatest Show on Earth. Cy Coleman's exuberant score includes the songs Come Follow The Band, The Colours Of My Life and There Is A Sucker Born Ev'ry Minute.

Brian Conley is one of the UK's most versatile performers and in recent years scored a huge success as Fagin in the national tour of Cameron Mackintosh's production of Oliver!, as Edna Turnblad in Hairspray — including a hit run at the Grand — and as Caractacus Potts in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang at the London Palladium. On television he is probably best known for playing Doug Digby in The Grimleys, his prime time vehicle The Brian Conley Show and numerous Royal Variety Performances.



Linzi Hateley and Brian Conley in Barnum

Linzi Hateley is an award winning actress who has starred on Broadway, in the West End, with the RSC and at the National Theatre. She created the role of Mrs Banks in Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's stage production of Mary Poppins. Her many other West End credits include Donna in Mamma Mia!, Roxie in Chicago, Rizzo in Grease and Eponine in Les Misérables. She recently appeared in the National Theatre's hit London Road.

Those that can't make it to Wolverhampton, or who want to experience Barnum all over again, can catch this touring production in the West Midlands again when it plays Birmingham Hippodrome in July.

Stamp of success for Swedish sisters

ON Wednesday, January 21, the Red Lion Folk Club in King's Heath, Birmingham, will welcome Megson, who had a successful 2014 with the release of their critically-acclaimed album In A Box. The duo of Stu and Debbie Hanna will be supported by Marie-Claire Berreen. Tickets are £11 plus an extra £1 for non-members.

Swedish sisters First Aid Kit have sold out their concert at the Symphony Hall, Birmingham tomorrow (Friday). The duo of Johanna and Klara Söderberg, from Stockholm, will be bringing their mix of folk and country to the impressive venue at 7.30pm. They have been such an international success that they are being featured on a Swedish postage stamp.

World premiere at ballet evening

BIRMINGHAM Royal Ballet and its acclaimed orchestra, the Royal Ballet Sinfonia, under the baton of Koen Kessels, returns to Symphony Hall, Birmingham, for An Evening of Music and Dance on Saturday, January 31.

Compered by the company's director David Bintley, the evening includes classical favourites and danced highlights from the company's diverse repertoire.

The programme is due to include scenes from Coppelia, Cinderella and Swan Lake. It will also feature the world premiere of Matryoshka choreographed by BRB dancer Ruth Brill to music by Shostakovich.



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CHOICE



Warwick Davis

Planet's Got Talent (ITV, 6.30pm)

When Paul O'Grady hosted the pilot for what would become Britain's Got Talent, UK TV bosses weren't impressed, so Simon Cowell footed it to the US and sold the Opportunity Knocks-style format with far more ease. Alas, Paul fell out with ITV, so Ant and Dec took over, and before long, Britain's Got Talent became one of Blighty's best loved shows. Then the rest of the world seemed to follow suit with their own versions of the glitzy talent show. Now, narrator Warwick Davis and a team have compiled a best of show. The first of the series features a dog that can do back flips on America's Got Talent; amazing Russian acrobats; an apple-hating Korean woman, and (Warwick's favourite), a man in India who can stuff 200 straws into his mouth at once.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30 James Martin: Home Comforts.** (R) **12.00 BBC News.** Weather. **12.10 Football Focus.** **12.50 Saturday Sportsday.** **1.00 Live Snooker: The Masters.** Hazel Irvine presents coverage of the opening semi-final from Alexandra Palace. **4.30 Final Score.** **5.20 Pointless Celebrities.** (R)

6.10 BBC News. Regional News; Weather.

6.30 Now You See It. Mel Giedroyc narrates the best and worst of the magic world, featuring Dynamo and a car with an invisible driver, and a man taking his legs for a walk, plus tricks going wrong.

7.00 The Voice UK. Emma Willis and Marvin Humes front the second round of the competition to find the nation's best new vocal talent. Coaches Tom Jones, Will.i.am, Ricky Wilson and Rita Ora sit with their backs to the auditionees, hitting their buttons to spin their chair if they want to mentor that singer – and allowing the hopeful to choose whose team they want to join if more than one coach turns. Their aim is to build a team of 12 acts each and they'll use every trick in the book to attract the ones they want. Hopefuls include Yorkshire lass Jade Hewitt, 19-year-old identical twins Classical Reflection from Peterborough, and Billy Bottle and Martine, a hippy couple from Devon.

8.25 The National Lottery: Win Your Wish List. Shane Richie hosts the game show in which two contestants answer questions to try to win each other's dream prizes. Including the lottery draws, with Gabby Roslin.

9.15 Casualty. Robyn tries to help a family who cannot feed their children. Ethan treats a hallucinating patient and Connie prepares for a showdown in court with Hailey Blake.

10.05 BBC News. Weather.

10.25 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League clashes, including Swansea City v Chelsea and Queens Park Rangers v Manchester United; National Lottery Update.

11.50 The Football League Show. **1.10 Film:** Phantoms. (1998) **2.40 Weather for the Week Ahead.** **2.45 BBC News.**

BBC2

6.10 Animal Park. (R) **6.40 Film:** Skyrunners. (2009) A teenager gains superpowers after finding a UFO but is kidnapped by aliens, leaving his brother to come to the rescue. Sci-fi adventure, starring Joey Pollari and Kelly Blatz. **8.10 Film:** Henry VIII and His Six Wives. (1972) The Tudor monarch looks back on his reign as he lies on his deathbed, and recalls the six women he made his queen. Historical drama, starring Keith Michell and Donald Pleasence. **10.10 Fred Dibnah's Building of Britain.** (R) **10.40 Fred Dibnah's Building of Britain.** (R) **11.10 British Isles: A Natural History.** (R) **12.00 James Martin: Home Comforts.** (R) **12.45 Sean Connery: Talking Pictures.** **1.35 Film:** The Wind and the Lion. (1975) An American woman and her son are kidnapped by a Moroccan chieftain in the 1900s, but come to sympathise with his cause.

Period adventure, starring Sean Connery and Candice Bergen. Edited for daytime broadcast. **3.30 Escape to the Country.** (R) **4.30 Live Snooker: The Masters.** The concluding frames of the opening semi-final from Alexandra Palace. **5.30 Flog It!**

6.30 Dad's Army. A land mine cuts off all power and communications services in Walmington-on-Sea, but Captain Mainwaring rises to the challenge by declaring martial law – while Pike gets stuck on some iron railings. Vintage comedy first broadcast in 1974, starring Arthur Lowe and Ian Lavender. (R)

7.00 Live Snooker: The Masters. Hazel Irvine presents coverage of the second semi-final from Alexandra Palace, London, where the line-up for the final will be confirmed over the best of 11 frames. Ronnie O'Sullivan prevailed against Stephen Maguire with a 6-2 victory in last year's concluding semi-final, earning him a chance to claim the title in a contest against Mark Selby. With commentary by Dennis Taylor, Ken Doherty, Stephen Hendry, John Virgo, Steve Davis and John Parrott.

10.30 Film: All Good Things. (2010)

Premiere. The heir of a wealthy family marries a medical student, but becomes a suspect when she disappears without trace. Crime drama, starring Ryan Gosling and Kristen Dunst.

12.05 Snooker Extra. Hazel Irvine presents extended highlights of the opening semi-final of the Masters at Alexandra Palace in London. **2.05 This Is BBC Two.**

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knockers Street. **6.10 Bottom Knockers Street.** (R) **6.20 Bottom Knockers Street.** (R) **6.35 Dino Dan.** (R) **6.45 Dino Dan.** (R) **7.00 Animals.** (R) **7.10 Sooty.** (R) **7.25 Signed Stories:** Share a Story. (R) **7.30 Scrambled!** Scrambled! **7.35 Scrambled!** Nerds & Monsters. (R) **7.50 Scrambled!** Adventure Time. **8.30 Scrambled!** Horrid Henry. (R) **8.50 Scrambled!** Hulk and the Agents of Smash. **9.25 ITV News.** **9.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA.** **10.25 Murder, She Wrote.** (R) **11.20 ITV News.** Weather. **11.30 Ejector Seat.** (R) **12.30 Britain's Best Back Gardens.** (R) **1.30 Who's Doing the Dishes?** (R) **2.35 Film:** The Secret of My Success. (1987)

Comedy, starring Michael J Fox. **4.35 Off Their Rockers.** (R) **5.05 Regional Programme:** Weather. **5.15 ITV News:** Weather. **5.30 You've Been Framed!** Best of the Best. (R)

6.30 Planet's Got Talent. New series. The best and worst clips from the global Got Talent franchise, examining how contestants across the world have fared in front of the judges. Narrated by Warwick Davis.

7.00 Harry Hill's Stars in Their Eyes. A phone retail manager, a holiday singer, a nurse, a learning administrator and a delivery driver are transformed into their favourite singers as they vie for a place in the final.

8.05 Take Me Out. Graphic designer Matt, Team GB taekwondo champion Andrew, car salesman Jamie and window cleaner Ross vie for the attentions of 30 single women.

9.20 Film: Bridget Jones's Diary. (2001) A single woman begins a new year with resolutions to find love, quit her bad habits and take a step up the career ladder. Her plans crumble as she tries to deal with her mother's infidelity, get over a passionate fling with her boss and come to terms with her feelings for an uptight lawyer.

Romantic comedy based on Helen Fielding's novel, starring Renee Zellweger and Colin Firth.

11.10 ITV News. Weather.

11.30 Film: Always. (1989) The ghost of a pilot is unable to rest until he helps his girlfriend learn to move on with her life. Steven Spielberg's romantic fantasy, starring Richard Dreyfuss and Holly Hunter.

1.35 Jackpot 247. **3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA.** (R) **3.30 ITV News.** Live.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.35 How I Met Your Mother.** (R) **7.00 Snowdonia Marathon 2014.** **7.55 The Morning Line.** **9.00 The King of Queens.** (R) **9.30 Everybody Loves Raymond.** (R) **10.00 Everybody Loves Raymond.** (R) **10.30 Frasier.** (R) **11.00 Frasier.** (R) **11.30 The Big Bang Theory.** (R) **11.55 The Big Bang Theory.** (R) **12.25 Speed with Guy Martin.** (R) **1.30 Channel 4 Racing.** Live coverage from Ascot and Haydock Park. **4.00 Come Dine with Me.** (R) **5.00 The Simpsons.** (R) **5.30 The Simpsons.** (R)

6.00 Channel 4 News.

6.30 The Restoration Man. George Clarke heads to Essex to observe the work of Jim and Be Goody as they transform a derelict Victorian school into their dream property.

7.30 The World's Best Diet. Food Unwrapped presents Jimmy Doherty and Kate Quilton travel the globe examining the eating habits of a variety of countries, tribes and communities, revealing how dietary tendencies have changed radically since the 1960s. Experts help them rank 50 of the world's diets, from worst to best, as they explore the differences and surprising similarities between what people, thousands of miles apart, consume. Will their discoveries offer an insight into how individuals can improve their health and quality of life? (R)

9.00 Film: The Sweeney. (2012) Premiere. An insubordinate detective and his loyal partner set out to stop a series of robberies across London. While they try to bring the criminals to justice, they come under investigation themselves as their unorthodox methods are met with disapproval from their superiors. Crime thriller based on the 1970s TV series, with Ray Winstone, Ben Drew, Damian Lewis and Hayley Atwell.

11.15 Greg Davies: The Back of My Mum's Head. Stand-up comedy with the Man Down star, from the Lowry in Salford. Greg embarks on a petty quest to find out whether anyone is normal, after his mother remarked that he is not.

12.15 Film: The Naked Gun: From the Files of Police Squad! (1988) **1.50 50 Years of Rock Express – Amps, Whips and Rebel Riffs.** (R) **2.50 Hollyoaks.** (R) **5.00 SuperScribbles.** (R) **5.50 NFL: Rush Zone.**

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.** (R) **10.35 Access.** **10.40 Monkey Life.** (R) **11.10 Ice Road Truckers.** (R) **12.10 Ice Road Truckers.** (R) **1.10 Ice Road Truckers.** (R) **2.05 Ice Road Truckers.** (R) **3.00 Film: Columbo: Try and Catch Me.** (1977) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk. **4.35 Film: Columbo: Death Hits the Jackpot.** (1991) Detective drama, with Peter Falk and Rip Torn.

6.25 The NCIS Movie: War on Terror. Feature-length episode. A military aircraft transporting the bodies of US marines back home crashes before reaching its destination, and Gibbs and the team are called in to help identify human remains at the site of the wreckage. However, a DNA discrepancy turns a routine investigation into a search for a missing person. Crime drama, starring Mark Harmon. (R)

8.00 CSI: Last Days of Jim Brass. A 25-year-old mystery involving the theft of cash and the death of one of the robbers from a gunshot wound is rekindled when officers discover the bullet-riddled body of one of the witnesses in a location remarkably close to where the original incident occurred. As neither the money nor a lion figurine that was also taken that day were ever recovered, locals become convinced of a connection, and a former detective – obsessed by the case – also makes his presence felt.

Elsewhere, Captain Brass handles a personal crisis after his daughter takes an overdose. Treat Williams guest stars, with Ted Danson, Elisabeth Shue and Paul Guilfoyle. Last in the series. (R)

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Celebrity Big Brother. Highlights of the famous residents' past 24 hours under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother, as they try to get used to their housemates' quirks and foibles while also coping with the day-to-day complications of life inside the house.

10.00 Film: Bad Boys. (1995) Two detectives are forced to swap identities as they hunt for a heroin consignment stolen by a drug kingpin. Michael Bay's action thriller, starring Will Smith.

12.15 SuperCasino. **3.10 Celebrity Big Brother.** (R) **4.00 House Doctor.** (R) **4.25 Make It Big.** (R) **5.15 Angels of Jarm.** (R) **5.40 Roary the Racing Car.** (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Great Movie Mistakes IV: May the Fourth Be with You. **8.00 Top Gear.** **9.00 Film: Armageddon** (1998) **11.25 Family Guy.** **2.00 Crims.** **2.30 The Revolution Will Be Televised.** **4.00 Close**

BBC Four

7.00 Lost Land of the Volcano. **8.00 Everyday Miracles: The Genius of Sofas, Stockings and Scanners.** **9.00 Spiral** **10.50 Blondie's New York and the Making of Parallel Lines.** **11.40 Blondie @ Glastonbury** **12.35 Synth Britannia** **2.05 Lost Land of the Volcano** **3.05 Blondie's New York and the Making of Parallel Lines** **3.55 Close**

ITV2

11.05 The Cube: Celebrity Special **12.05 You've Been Framed!** **1.05 Totally You've Been Framed!** **2.10 Film: Valiant** (2005) **3.50 Film: Mr Magorium's Wonder Emporium** (2007) **5.45 Film: King Kong** (2005) **9.20 Take Me Out – The Gossip** **10.05 Blue Go Mad in Ibiza**

11.05 Film: Harold & Kumar Get the Munchies (2004) **12.55 Mom** **1.45 Dads** **2.10 Fake Reaction** **2.45 Teleshopping** **5.45 ITV2 Nightscreen**

ITV3

11.05 Inspector Morse **1.15 A Touch of Frost** **3.15 Agatha Christie's Marple** **5.20 Rosemary & Thyme** **7.00 Doc Martin** **8.00 Midsummer Murders** **10.00 Lewis** **12.05 A Touch of Frost** **2.00 ITV3 Nightscreen** **2.30 Teleshopping**

ITV4

11.45 Pawn Stars **1.35 Storage Wars** **2.30 Storage Wars: Texas** **3.30 Film: Destricted** (1994) **5.25 Film: Red River** (1948) **8.10 Film: Bill & Ted's Bogus Journey** (1989) **11.00 Africa Cup of Nations Highlights** **11.00 Film: Apocalypse Now** (1979) **1.55 The Motorbike Show** **2.45 ITV4 Nightscreen** **3.00 Teleshopping** **3.30 The Store**

E4

11.30 Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. **12.30 Melissa & Joey** **1.30 How I Met Your Mother** **2.30 Rude (ish) Tube** **3.30 The Big Bang Theory** **8.00 The 100** **9.00 Film: Knight and Day** (2010) **11.10 The Big Bang Theory** **12.10 The Inbetweeners** **1.10 How I Met Your Mother** **2.10 The Ricky Gervais Show** **2.40 Don't Trust the B**** in Apartment 23** **3.25 One Tree Hill** **4.10 Desperate Housewives**

Film4

11.00 13 Rue Madeleine (1946) **1.00 Biggles** (1986) **2.50 Fast Girls** (2012) **4.35 Hairspray** (2007) **6.50 Top Gun** (1986) **9.00 Priest** (2011) **10.45 Storage** (2012) **12.30 Dog Pound** (2010) **2.15 Basket Case** (1982) **4.00 Close**

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CHOICE



Helen George

Call the Midwife (BBC1, 8pm)
New series. The nuns and midwives of Nonnatus House return, with new nurse Barbara, who is anxious to prove herself – only to get off on the wrong foot after a late-night drinks party. A family of severely neglected children is discovered, so Trixie strives to restore their health and bring happiness into their lives, leaving Tom filled with admiration for the woman he loves, while Sister Evangelina finally undergoes tests for her abdominal pains.

9.00 Last Tango in Halifax. Caroline is overwhelmed at the prospect of looking after the new baby, until a stranger comes to her rescue.

10.00 BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action, featuring Manchester City v Arsenal at the Etihad Stadium and West Ham United v Hull City at Upton Park.

11.25 The Apprentice USA.

12.50 Weather for the Week Ahead.

12.55 BBC News.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 7.35 Match of the Day. (R) **9.00 The Andrew Marr Show.** **10.00 The Big Questions.** **11.00 Sunday Politics.** **12.15 MOTD2 Extra.** With Mark Chapman and the Match of the Day team. **1.00 BBC News:** Weather. **1.15 Bargain Hunt.** (R) **2.15 Flog It!** (R) **2.40 Escape to the Country.** (R) **3.25 Lifestile.** **3.35 Songs of Praise.** **4.10 Film:** Shrek the Third. (2007) Animated sequel, with the voice of Mike Myers. **5.35 Celebrity Mastermind.**

6.05 BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

6.30 Countryfile. The team pays a visit to Keswick in the Lake District, where Matt Baker finds out about a charity that is helping wheelchair users to experience the thrill of abseiling through the use of a frame originally designed for mountain rescues. Ellie Harrison climbs Helvellyn mountain to predict the weather with hilltop assessors and finds out about early tourism in the Lakes, and Sanjida O'Connell is on the banks of Coniston Water, where she tries her hand at the Cumbrian craft of oak swill basket-making. Adam Henson travels to Wales to discover the secret of White Park Cattle's origins and Tom Heap investigates how easy it is to get good healthcare in isolated parts of the countryside. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

7.30 Still Open All Hours. Granville buys too much stock and needs to come up with a way of getting rid of it all, while Eric is having a few marital problems and asks Leroy for a few tips on wooing his wife.

8.00 Call the Midwife. New series. Trixie helps a family of neglected children, new nurse Barbara gets off on the wrong foot and Sister Evangelina finally undergoes tests for her abdominal pains.

9.00 Last Tango in Halifax. Caroline is overwhelmed at the prospect of looking after the new baby, until a stranger comes to her rescue.

10.00 BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action, featuring Manchester City v Arsenal at the Etihad Stadium and West Ham United v Hull City at Upton Park.

11.25 The Apprentice USA.

12.50 Weather for the Week Ahead.

12.55 BBC News.

BBC2

6.15 Great British Garden Revival. (R) **7.15 Glorious Gardens from Above.** (R) **8.00 Countryfile.** (R) **9.00 The Football League Show.** (R) **10.20 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites.** **11.50 Food & Drink.** (R) **12.20 James Martin: Home Comforts.** (R) **12.50 Live Snooker: The Masters.** The opening eight frames of the final from Alexandra Palace. **5.15 Ski Sunday.**

6.00 The Tea Trail with Simon Reeve. In the first of two This World documentaries examining the stories behind the nation's favourite beverages, adventurer and broadcaster Simon Reeve looks at the production of tea. He begins in the Kenyan coastal city of Mombasa, where most of the leaves for teabags are bought at auction, before travelling through eastern Africa to meet some of the millions of people who pick, pack and transport it. He drinks tea with everyone from Maasai cattle herders to the descendants of the original plantation owners, and hears claims of low wages and child labour. (R)

7.00 Live Snooker: The Masters. Hazel Irvine presents concluding coverage of the final from Alexandra Palace, London, where a maximum of 11 frames will be played to decide this year's champion. Ronnie O'Sullivan claimed his fifth Masters title with a 10-4 victory over Mark Selby in 2014, winning four frames to the Jester from Leicester's two in the second session. With commentary by Dennis Taylor, Ken Doherty, Stephen Hendry, John Virgo, Steve Davis and John Parrott. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

11.00 Film: Last Orders. (2001) Four men visit Margate to scatter a friend's ashes and reminisce about their shared experiences over the last six decades. Drama, with Michael Caine, Bob Hoskins and Tom Courtenay.

12.45 Sign Zone: Countryfile. People and places hit by the 2014 floods in Somerset, meeting the farmer whose livelihood ended up underwater and finding out how it affected the local birdlife. (R) **1.40 Holby City.** Jonny is distraught when Jac considers a new start in the USA with Emma. Sacha's daughter Rachel is brought in, while Mary-Claire and Harry try to hold back their mutual attraction. (R) **2.40 This Is BBC Two.**

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knockor Street. **6.10 Bottom Knockor Street.** (R) **6.20 Bottom Knockor Street.** (R) **6.35 Dino Dan.** (R) **6.45 Dino Dan.** (R) **7.00 Animals.** (R) **7.10 Sooty.** (R) **7.25 Signed Stories:** Share a Story. (R) **7.30 Scrambled!** Scrambled! **7.35 Scrambled! Nerds & Monsters.** (R) **7.50 Scrambled!** Ultimate Spider-Man. **8.30 Scrambled!** Horrid Henry. (R) **8.50 Scrambled!** Deadtime Stories. (R) **9.25 ITV News.** **9.30 Film:** Columbo: Any Old Port In a Storm. (1973) **11.25 ITV News.** **11.35 Murder, She Wrote.** (R) **12.30 Harry Hill's Stars in Their Eyes.** (R) **1.30 River Monsters.** (R) **2.00 Midsomer Murders.** (R) **4.00 Film:** Live and Let Die. (1973) Adventure, starring Roger Moore.

6.20 Regional Programme: Weather.

6.30 ITV News: Weather.

6.45 Get Your Act Together. New series. Well-known faces are paired with leading variety acts to master a chosen talent, before competing on stage for a place in the final. Stephen Mulhern hosts.

8.00 Foyle's War. With his colleague Hilda Pierce is targeted by an assassin outside MIS. Foyle must re-examine her top-secret role during the war. He suspects the shooting could be connected to the hunt for a traitor within the Special Operations Executive who may have been behind the deaths of nine agents in France. Meanwhile, Sam is faced with a dilemma when Adam and Glenvil crack down on the black market in East Peckham.

10.00 ITV News: Weather.

10.15 Perspectives: Warwick Davis – The Seven Dwarfs of Auschwitz. The actor tells the story of a Jewish family of travelling musicians who survived Josef Mengele's hideous experiments at the Nazi concentration camp during the Second World War. (R)

11.15 The Undriveables. A designer who struggles to control her road rage and an executive PA prone to panicking in heavy traffic try to pass their driving tests with the help of leading instructors. (R)

11.45 The Chase. Bradley Walsh presents as four contestants answer general knowledge questions and work as a team to take on ruthless quiz genius the Chaser and secure a cash prize. (R)

12.35 The Store. **2.20 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA.** (R) **3.05 ITV Nightscreen.** **5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.40 Challenge Bahrain.** **7.35 Everybody Loves Raymond.** (R) **8.05 Everybody Loves Raymond.** (R) **8.30 Frasier.** (R) **9.00 Frasier.** (R) **9.30 Sunday Brunch.** **12.30 Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast.** (R) **1.30 The Big Bang Theory.** (R) **2.00 The Big Bang Theory.** (R) **2.25 The Simpsons.** (R) **2.55 The Simpsons.** (R) **3.25 Film:** Mighty Joe Young. (1998) **5.40 Channel 4 News.**

6.05 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. Laura Hamilton meets a London couple who want a holiday home in Mojacar, southern Spain, showing them a townhouse with stunning views for £25,000 less than their budget.

7.00 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. In the East Midlands, Jim and Jenny are desperate to sell so they can move closer to work, but their home has already been on the market four months, and when Phil Spencer arrives, he encounters a house with missing floorboards, a dated bathroom and toys scattered everywhere. Meanwhile, Gwyneth and her daughters are under pressure to sell before someone else snaps up their dream property, but with six cats and neglected decor, buyers are not exactly forming a queue.

8.00 The Hotel. Mark goes all out to impress a three-time Olympic gold medalist staying at the hotel, and focuses on improving customer service – but acerbic head waiter Paul presents a challenge.

9.00 Walking the Nile. Levison Wood faces a 1,300-mile walk across the Sahara with three badly behaved camels, before tackling his toughest physical challenge – crossing the Bayuda volcanic field.

10.00 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown. Team captains Sean Lock and Jon Richardson are joined by Jack Whitehall and Roisin Conaty, while Rob Beckett is in Dictionary Corner with Susie Dent. (R)

11.05 Film: The Pact. (2012) Premiere. A woman returns to her family home after her mother's death to find her sister has disappeared and the house may be haunted. Horror, with Caitly Lotz.

12.50 The Last Leg. (R) **1.45 Film:** Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives. (2010) **3.35 Kirstie's Best of Both Worlds.** (R) **4.30 The Big Bang Theory.** (R) **4.40 SuperScrimpers.** (R) **5.35 Face the Clock.** (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05 Roary the Racing Car.** (R) **6.15 Angelina Ballerina.** (R) **6.30 Pip Ahoy!** (R) **6.40 The Mr Men Show.** (R) **6.55 Chloe's Closet.** **7.05 Mio Mao.** (R) **7.10 Oily the Little White Van.** (R) **7.15 Bananas in Pyjamas.** (R) **7.30 Make Way for Noddy.** (R) **7.40 Paw Patrol.** (R) **7.55 Little Princess.** (R) **8.10 The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky.** (R) **8.20 Milkshake! Bop Box.** (R) **8.25 Wanda and the Alien.** **8.35 Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures.** (R) **8.40 Zack and Quack.** (R) **8.55 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom.** (R) **9.15 Jelly Jamm.** (R) **9.30 LazyTown.** (R) **10.00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.** (R) **10.35 Access.** (R) **10.40 The Hotel Inspector.** (R) **11.35 The Hotel Inspector.** (R) **12.35 The Hotel Inspector.** (R) **1.35 Film:** Her Husband's Betrayal. (2013) Thriller, starring Jacqueline MacInnes Wood. **3.20 Film:** The Englishman Who Went Up a Hill, But Came Down a Mountain. (1995) Comedy drama, starring Hugh Grant. **5.15 Film:** Did You Hear about the Morgans? (2009) Romantic comedy, starring Hugh Grant and Sarah Jessica Parker.

7.05 Film: My Super Ex-Girlfriend. (2006) Ordinary New Yorker Matt starts dating a woman he meets on the subway, unaware she is the superhero G-Girl. When he breaks up with the insecure crimefighter, she is outraged and uses her superpowers to make his life a misery. Meanwhile, her arch-enemy sees Matt as a potentially ally in defeating G-Girl once and for all. Fantasy comedy, starring Uma Thurman, Luke Wilson and Eddie Izzard. Edited for language and sexual content.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Celebrity Big Brother. A chance to catch up with the latest events inside the house as the celebrities cope with living under constant surveillance, with all the arguments and alliances, as well as the revelations in the diary room.

10.00 Film: Gone. (2012) Premiere. A woman who was once kidnapped finds her sister has disappeared, and fears the man who abducted her has struck again. Thriller, with Amanda Seyfried and Daniel Sunjata.

12.00 He Left Me for My Mother and Other Betrayals. (R) **12.55 SuperCasino.** **3.10 Benefit House: Me & My 26 Kids.** (R) **4.00 House Doctor.** (R) **4.25 Make It Big.** (R) **5.15 Angels of Jarm.** (R) **5.40 Roary the Racing Car.** (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Great Movie Mistakes 2: The Sequel **7.05 Pop's Greatest Dance Crazes** **7.35 The Voice UK** **9.00 Backchat** with Jack Whitehall and His Dad **9.30 Russell Howard's Good News** **10.00 Family Guy** **10.45 Crims** **11.15 Family Guy** **12.00 Backchat** with Jack Whitehall and His Dad **12.30 Russell Howard's Good News** **1.00 Crims** **1.30 Siblings** **3.00 Who Needs Ibiza?** The Great British Holiday **4.00 Close**

BBC Four

7.00 Tales from the Royal Bedchamber **8.00 Queen Victoria's Letters: A Monarch Unveiled** **9.00 The Joy of Mozart** **10.00 Poet on the Frontline** **11.00 BBC Four Sessions – The Great American Songbook** **12.00 Sound of Song** **1.00 Sings the Great American Songbook** **2.00 Blues at the BBC** **3.00 The Joy of Mozart** **4.00 Close**

ITV2

11.45 Take Me Out **1.00 Take Me Out – The Gossip** **1.45 You've Been Framed!** **3.20 Film:** Homebound Bound: The Incredible Journey (1993) **5.05 Film:** Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang (2010) **9.00 Film:** Jurassic Park III (2001) **9.00 Film:** The Dark Knight (2008) **12.05 Film:** Billy Madison (1995) **1.45 Morn**

ITV3

11.20 Sherlock Holmes: The Sign of Four **1.40 Film:** The Belles of St Trinian's (1954) **3.35 Inspector Morse** **5.55 Lewis** **8.00 The Zoo** **9.00 It'll Be Alright on the Night** **10.00 Northern Lights** **11.00 Film:** The Count of Monte Cristo (2002) **1.35 Judge Judy** **2.15 Countryside** **3.10 ITV3 Nightscreen**

ITV4

12.10 Counting Cars **1.05 Film:** The Secret War of Harry Firth (1967) **3.25 Africa Cup of Nations Highlights** **4.25 Film:** Battle of the Bulge (1965) **7.40 Film:** Driven (2001) **10.00 Africa Cup of Nations Highlights** **11.00 Film:** We Were Soldiers (2002) **1.40 Hell on Wheels** **2.25 Night Circus** **2.50 ITV4 Nightscreen** **3.00 Teleshopping**

E4

12.30 Revenge **1.30 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD** **2.30 The 100** **3.30 The Big Bang Theory** **5.30 Brooklyn Nine-Nine** **6.00 Marry Me** **6.30 The Big Bang Theory** **8.00 Film:** Transformers (2007) **10.50 The Big Bang Theory** **11.20 The Inbetweeners** **12.20 Rude Tube** **1.25 The Cleveland Show** **2.45 Rules of Engagement** **3.30 Hollyoaks**

Film4

11.00 The Mark of Zorro (1940) **1.00 Big Fish** (2003) **3.25 Carry On Dick** (1974) **5.10 The Three Musketeers** (1993) **7.15 Airplane II: The Sequel** (1982) **9.00 Van Helsing** (2004) **11.40 The Rum Diary** (2011) **2.00 Tenacious D in The Pick of Destiny** (1995) **4.00 Close**

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SOURCE: The Newspaper Society - Consumer Catalyst 2014

MONDAY
A Simple Plan, BBC1, 12.20am
Two brothers and a friend stumble on a fortune in unmarked small dollar bills in the wreckage of a plane and decide to squirrel it away for themselves. However, the strain of keeping the cache secret takes its toll as guilt, paranoia and greed change their relationship for ever. Sam Raimi's psychological thriller, starring Bill Paxton, Billy Bob Thornton and Gary Cole. (1998)

TUESDAY
The Kite Runner, BBC1, 11.35pm
The friendship between two boys growing up in Afghanistan – wealthy Amir and Hassan, the son of a servant – is shattered, seemingly for ever, when Amir fails to protect Hassan from a brutal attack and later drives him away to conceal his shame. After years living in exile as a writer in America, an adult Amir returns to his home country to atone for his childhood sins by finding his friend's missing son. Drama, starring Khalid Abdalla and Atossa Leoni. (2007)



Knocked Up, Friday, ITV, 10.40pm

WEDNESDAY
The Ring, BBC1, 12am
A journalist investigates several teenage deaths, which are linked to a cursed videotape and the rumour that anyone who watches it will die a week later. Her growing obsession with the tape endangers herself and her family – and to avoid the predicted fate, she has just seven days to find out where the recording came from. Gore Verbinski's remake of the Japanese supernatural horror, starring Naomi Watts and Brian Cox. (2002)

THURSDAY
Out of Reach, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A woman faces having her family torn apart when her husband enters into a business arrangement with two lifestyle coaches, only to end up joining their cult of followers. She struggles to get him away from their influence, but the conflict grows more serious when the sect tries to gain custody of her daughter. Thriller, starring Erin Karpluk and Lochlyn Munro. (2013)

FRIDAY
Knocked Up, ITV, 10.40pm
Ambitious journalist Alison's one-night stand with directionless layabout Ben has unexpected consequences when she discovers she is pregnant. However, the unlikely parents decide to give the relationship a try for the baby's sake. Romantic comedy, starring Seth Rogen and Katherine Heigl. (2007)

Historical series hopes to be a novel success

Despite the best efforts of Jonathan Rhys Meyers in The Tudors and Eric Bana in The Other Boleyn Girl, it seems Henry VIII still has a very unglamorous image.

Or as Damian Lewis puts it: "I think we all have this understanding that he was this worshipping, syphilitic, bloated, genocidal Elvis character."

However, in new drama series Wolf Hall, adapted from Hilary Mantel's two Booker-prize-winning novels, the actor is hoping we can see beyond the monarch's weight and diseases. It helps that the story is approached from the perspective of Henry's advisor Thomas Cromwell (acclaimed stage actor Mark Rylance).

It's also allowed Lewis to explore another side to the King. "I think what I've found in Henry is that the grandiose, more paranoid, self indulgent, self pitying, cruel Henry emerged in the period after this series..."

"What we're trying to concentrate on a little bit is just to give a more varied portrait of Henry, and that's really how this is written. Henry's not

in it very much but when we see him there's great variety in his character and his personality..."

"We see him at times frightened by the memory of his mother and I think these are little insights that people won't be used to, you know, and yet there are the similar things there, the vanity is still there, the self importance."

So it's little wonder that the former Homeland star has mixed feelings about being able to empathise with his character. "The more I read about him the more I was happy – and alarmed – to find that I did share character traits with him."

"I suppose everyone else will be the judge of it, but certainly sitting in the clothes, it feels like a canny piece of casting, because I do feel, I do find similarities between myself and him."

He adds: "I think there's no question it helps having had the kind of schooling that I've had [at Eton] to play a King. Just the way, the sort of court structure, hierarchies, the way they're set up, it's something I feel I implicitly understand."

We'll be able to see just how convincing Lewis is as the six-part series begins with the monarch desperate to produce a male heir, which means ending his marriage to Katherine of Aragon (Joanne Whalley).

Unfortunately, Cardinal Wolsey (Jonathan Pryce) isn't having much luck in persuading the Pope to annul the union – and if he fails from favour, that will also have a knock-on effect on his protégé, Thomas Cromwell.

When the Cardinal is dismissed as Lord Chancellor, the noble families of England begin jostling for position, keen to become the King's next advisors, but Cromwell is hopeful that the Wolsey will eventually regain Henry's favour.

That could be tricky though, as the Cardinal has made many enemies at court, including one Anne Boleyn (Claire Foy), who still resents him for ending her betrothal to Henry Percy eight years earlier, and could now be in a position to take revenge as the King's rumoured new mistress...



Mark Rylance stars in Wolf Hall, Wednesday, BBC2, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
Broadchurch
ITV, 9pm
The little town with a lorry-load of secrets is certainly back with a bang, and true to form, it's once again dominating all conversations, whether at work, around the pub, or about the house. Writer Chris Chibnall has a lot to answer for – his brilliant work seems to be dominating almost all our waking thoughts. He explains: "In the time we've been off air, we've never stopped working on the show's return. I knew, from the start, that there was another story to tell in the world of Broadchurch: so much so that I'd pitched it to Peter Fincham, Director of Television at ITV, in our very first meeting when he greenlit the first series of the show." Secrecy has shrouded this second series before now, but in tonight's third episode, Hardy faces a race against time as Ellie discovers startling new evidence. But she's got plenty more on her plate than that, as she comes under pressure from all sides, and life for Mark and Beth is about to change forever.

TUESDAY
The Eichmann Show
BBC2, 9pm
2014 was the year Martin Freeman became officially ubiquitous, starring in the final Hobbit movie, the third series of Sherlock and the acclaimed TV

drama Fargo. His 2015 is shaping up to be just as momentous as he takes a leading role in this timely drama, which is showing to mark the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. Set in Jerusalem in 1961, it follows ground-breaking TV producer Milton Fruchtman (Freeman) as he sets about filming the trial of Adolf Eichmann, one of the architects of the Holocaust. First though, he has to convince the judge that cameras belong in the courtroom, and then train up an inexperienced camera team with the help of director Leo Hurwitz (Anthony LaPaglia) an acclaimed filmmaker who had been blacklisted by McCarthy. However, the pair's persistence pays off when the footage gives victims of the Holocaust the chance to share their horrifying experiences with a global audience.

WEDNESDAY
The National Television Awards – Live!
ITV, 7.30pm
The biggest names on the small screen gather at the O2 in London for the annual ceremony celebrating the best of British TV over the past 12 months, as voted for by viewers. Now in its 20th year, the show promises a few surprises, including a cheeky raid by one of the UK's

biggest sitcom stars, while host Dermot O'Leary entertains with a dance routine. Benedict Cumberbatch (Sherlock), Maggie Smith (Downton Abbey), Sarah Lancashire (Happy Valley) and Sheridan Smith (Cilla) battle it out in the Drama Performance category, while star makers Simon Cowell, David Walliams and Cheryl Fernandez-Versini are up against star baker Mary Berry for best TV Judge. Other closely fought contests include Serial Drama Performance, which sees EastEnders' Danny Dyer and Kellie Bright (Mick and Linda Carter) go head to head, with further competition from Verity Rushworth (Emmerdale's Donna) and Nikki Sanderson (Hollyoaks' Maxine Minniver).

THURSDAY
Cucumber
Channel 4, 9pm
New series. Sixteen years after the hit Manchester-set series Queer as

Folk appeared on the small screen, Russell T Davies returns with this drama exploring the passions and pitfalls of 21st-century gay life - one of three interlinked shows for Channel 4, E4 and online. When a 46-year-old man and his long-suffering boyfriend embark on a disastrous date night, nothing will ever be the same again. At work, Henry is drawn to the enigmatic Freddie, while Lance greets newcomer Daniel, but both friendships are set on a course to explode.

FRIDAY
Match of the Day Live
BBC1, 7.30pm
Cambridge United v Manchester United (Kick-off 7.55pm). Gary Lineker presents coverage of the opening FA Cup fourth-round match, which takes place at Abbey Stadium between the respective League Two and Premier League outfits. The hosts are the lowest-ranked club left in the draw, and will be delighted with this money-spinning tie against the 11-time champions, who have already negotiated one tricky fixture away to lower-league opposition in the shape of Yeovil Town in round three. The U's squad contains former United midfielder Luke Chadwick and this is the first meeting between the sides since a two-legged League Cup encounter in 1991, which saw the Red Devils held to a 1-1 draw on this ground.



Broadchurch, Monday, ITV, 9pm

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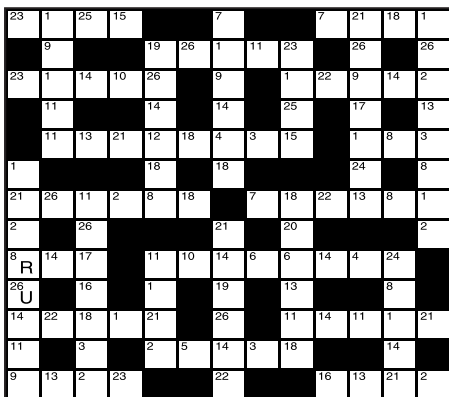
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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
E	L	H	R	B	F	P	K	X	G	U	N	V
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
C	S	T	O	W	Z	A	M	J	Q	Y	D	I

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

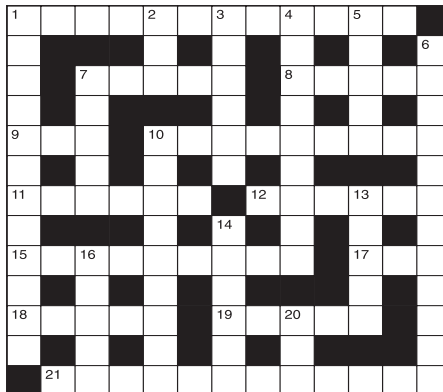
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- Sort of gambling common on board ship (5,3,4)
- Urban areas to the West, North and South (5)
- Left in a unit entirely without support? (5)
- Nothing for a teetotaler to swallow! (3)
- If you do, the rest must be easy (5,4)
- Noted printer's errors (6)
- Delay by putting the date in wrongly (6)
- Keep in mind what the host will do (9)
- I follow the Spanish prophet (3)
- Yet one wouldn't pay a high rent for it (5)
- Lowered oneself? (5)
- Hardly descriptive of the time a final demand arrives! (3,6,3)

Down

- Modern container that can be made to go by elephant! (9,3)
- A question of manners (3)
- Made a home for a good man in need (6)
- Show contempt for a vagrant Noel put up (7,2)
- Cut a Pole to the heart (5)
- Having made good progress, what the desert traveller would like to find? (4,2,3,3)
- Don chopped up trout (5)
- Humorously critical, yet possibly racist! (9)
- He won't play a principal part (5)
- Possibly part of the mail boat (6)
- It is included in the tax (5)
- She's held in reverence (3)



Quick Clues:

Across

- Incident (12)
- Trend (5)
- Redbreast (5)
- Look at (3)
- Appearance (9)
- Decayed (6)
- Strain (6)
- Wavering (9)
- Can (3)
- Alliance (5)
- Honour (5)
- Spineless (12)

Down

- Scornful (12)
- Large vase (3)
- Road (6)
- Revoked (9)
- Hut (5)
- Excessive (12)
- Apply remedies (5)
- Being (9)
- Way in (5)
- Promise (6)
- Descendant (5)
- Sphere (3)

Sudoku

2			6		8		7	1
	8			3	1	4	6	
		4		7				
	4	2						
3				2				5
				9				
	9	8	1	5			3	
7	5		3	6				4

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

1	4	5	2	9	3	8	6	7
8	7	6	1	5	4	3	9	2
2	3	9	6	8	7	4	1	5
6	1	3	5	7	2	9	4	8
7	8	4	3	6	9	5	2	1
9	5	2	8	4	1	7	3	6
4	9	8	7	2	6	1	5	3
3	2	7	9	1	5	6	8	4
5	6	1	4	3	8	2	7	9

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 4 Credits; 8 Animal; 9 Spirits; 10 Orders; 11 Sacked; 12 Snapshot; 18 Test-tube; 20 Stream; 21 Swatze; 22 Surcoat; 23 Prompt; 24 Redress. Down: 1 Carouse; 2 Misdeal; 3 Bains; 5 Ripostes; 6 Direct; 7 Tatter; 13 Hot meals; 14 Customs; 15 Resents; 16 Attune; 17 Fencer; 19 Toward. QUICK - Across: 4 Village; 8 Hearty; 9 Strange; 10 Rotten; 11 Roller; 12 Exertion; 18 Calamity; 20 Detour; 21 Prison; 22 Display; 23 Aplomb; 24 Swollen. Down: 1 Shorten; 2 Canteen; 3 Street; 5 Internal; 6 Liable; 7 Gagged; 13 Increase; 14 Mission; 15 By and by; 16 Review; 17 Compel; 19 Abrupt.

Quiz

- By what name do we know the bird sturnus vulgaris?
- Which president's desk bore the legend 'the buck stops here'?
- Who wrote The Caretaker in 1960?
- Which city became France's capital for four days in WW2?
- In whose honour is the US state of Virginia named?
- Which bird has mistle and hermit varieties?
- What name did photographer Emmanuel Rudnitsky assume?
- What do we call the study of the surface shape of the land?
- Who is chairman of the charity Mencap?
- Which Manchester soccer legend died in January 1994?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 David Dimbleby; 2 Joey; 3 Zurich; 4 Kurt Vonnegut Jr; 5 Madonna; 6 Salmon; 7 Daley; 8 Tower of London; 9 Edwina Currie; 10 Motown.
Niner: BOULEVARD

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

45678 gives a flower,
4371237 gives another flower,
82571489 gives a plant.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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It has an entrance hall with laminate flooring, a lounge with wood-effect laminate flooring and under stairs storage, a kitchen/diner with attractive modern cream units and contrasting working surfaces, a double electric oven with gas hob and cooker hood, fridge, freezer, dishwasher, high gloss tiled flooring and pelmet lighting, an orangery with the same attractive high gloss flooring, spot lights and a self-cleaning glass roof and a utility. A galleried landing leads to a master bedroom en suite with wardrobes, three further bedrooms with wardrobes, a bathroom with bath and double shower cubicle.

There is a driveway, integral garage and a rear garden with a patio and lawn.

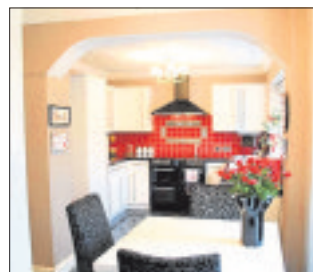
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Small hatch that's big on power and sets the pace

By David Banner

The Ford Fiesta Zetec-S Red and Black Editions pack a 140PS punch from their tiny 1.0-litre engines.

Ford's Fiesta has been a hit when fitted with the 1.0-litre Ecoboost three-cylinder engine and these Zetec-S Black and Red Editions are the most extreme versions yet, with 140PS from the tiny three-pot.

They look racy, will hit 62mph in nine seconds and start at less than £15,000.

About 40 years ago, Ford built a 5.0-litre V8 version of the Mustang. Developing 140PS, it was tested by Road and Track magazine and recorded a speed to 60mph of 10.5 seconds, eventually running out of ideas at 106mph. The 'metric Mustang' as it was called, ditched the old cubic inch capacity labelling and switched to litres. These days Ford can do amazing things with a litre.

The Fiesta Zetec-S Black and Red Editions use 1.0 litres of cubic capacity to amazing effect, matching the 5.0-litre Mustang's power output, easily bettering its performance and handling and offering fuel economy that Ford engineers would once have thought pure fantasy.

Tweaked

You might well have seen the 80, 100 and 125PS versions of the Ecoboost 1.0-litre engines before, but Ford's engineers have tweaked the powerplant to offer up a few more ponies.

Not only does the 140PS output make these Fiestas the most powerful 1.0-litre volume production cars ever but you also get more power per litre than in a Bugatti Veyron or a Lamborghini Aventador.

This results in some fairly crisp acceleration figures, the lightweight powerplant helping the Fiesta to 62mph in just nine seconds and topping out at 125mph. In fact, this engine delivers more than twice the specific output per litre than its predecessor – the 1.6-litre 100PS engine that powered the Fiesta S just 10 years ago.

Like all the Ecoboost engines, this one uses turbocharger to plump up the mid-range torque, and the three-cylinder powerplant features twin-independent variable cam timing and high-pressure direct-injection technologies.

The Red and Black Editions also get revised gear ratios for the five-speed manual transmission and a more focused suspension set-up.

In addition to new shock absorber and spring settings, the sport suspension uses a stiffer rear axle and revised tuning for the electronic power assisted steering system to deliver more detailed feedback through the wheel.

As the name suggests, the Zetec-S Red

and Black Edition versions of the Fiesta come in very specific colour schemes.

These two-tone models are available in Race Red, complemented by Panther Black roof and detailing. The three-door models feature front upper and lower grille surrounds, front bumper aerofoil and mirror caps in contrasting colours, with standard black 17in alloy wheels.

Inside, you'll find a black leather sports steering wheel and gear lever gaiter with red stitching, black floor mats with red stitching and charcoal black sport seats with contrasting red stitching and bolster exteriors. The rising beltline of the Fiesta in profile doesn't seem to bode well for the rear seat passengers in the three-door car but there's surprisingly decent legroom and headroom that's manageable even for a six-footer.

Prices start at around £16,000, which might seem quite a lot for a Fiesta with a 1.0-litre powerplant but this unit develops the same power output as the engine you'd get in a similarly-priced SEAT Ibiza 1.4 TSI and Ford has levered in quite a bit of kit as well.

As well as the tuned suspension, revised steering, body styling parts and alloy wheels, you get equipment like stability control, anti-lock brakes, seven airbags, a Quickclear windscreen, a trip computer, a CD player with controls on the steering wheel, central locking and electric heated mirrors.

The EasyFuel cap-less refuelling system is also very slick.

Cheaper

Obvious rivals include the SEAT and Suzuki's Swift Sport, which develops 136PS and is just over a grand cheaper.

Perhaps the biggest threat to this car is the fact that Ford's brilliant Fiesta ST – all 182PS of it – starts at just £17,250.

At the risk of sounding like a scratched record, it's worth bearing in mind that these tiny, high output engines never make anything like the promised fuel economy. Ford quotes a figure of 62.8mpg on the combined cycle, but should you average over 40mpg, you'll be doing fairly well. Emissions are rated at just 104g/km, which is a brilliant figure for what is ostensibly a performance hatch.

For all the carping about fuel economy, getting better than 40mpg from such a quick and capable petrol-engined car isn't all that bad. Residual values will reflect the fact that the Fiesta is a brilliant driver's car and one that needn't be expensive to fuel, tax or insure.

Yes, you're limited on colour and the black car with the red contrasts is only going to suit the more extrovert buyers but it's hard to think of anything more fun for fifteen grand.

Fresh style inside and out plus a new model

By Matt Kimberley

Kia's quart-from-a-pint-pot small car, the facelifted Venga, is now on sale in the UK.

There are restyled front and rear ends which give the Venga a sportier appearance and the interiors have been refreshed with added touches of luxury and more equipment. At the top of the range there is a new Venga 4 model.

The new line-up is based on five trim grades and four engines, giving a choice of 11 models. The highly economical 1.4- and 1.6-litre petrol and diesel engines are carried over from the previous Venga and give potential fuel economy of up to 64.2mpg, with CO2 emissions as low as 117g/km. Intelligent Stop & Go (ISG) is standard where it can effect a worthwhile improvement in fuel consumption and emissions, and appears on all but one manual version.

The 89bhp 1.4-litre petrol engine is offered with 1, 1 Air and 2 trim grades, while the 89bhp 1.4-litre diesel is reserved exclusively for Venga 2. The two 1.6-litre engines with manual transmission are available with grades 3 and 4. The 1.6 petrol engine is also offered with a four-speed automatic gearbox in grades 2, 3 and 4.

All versions have a more aggressive, sportier front bumper and main grille, featuring a new take on the 'tiger nose' theme with high-gloss black mesh and a chrome surround. The Kia logo has been relocated to the bodywork. The lower air intake has been redesigned to house daytime running lights (LED with grades 3 and 4) next to the fog lights, which now sit in high-gloss black housings joined by a chrome strip. There is also now a chrome strip linking the rear light units, which are LED on Venga 4. Another premium touch with Venga 4 is the chrome exterior door handles.

For grades 2 and above, there are new-style 16-inch alloy wheels with five triple spokes, while grades 1 and 1 Air continue with 15-inch steel wheels with five-spoke embellishers.

Interior improvements include new black Houndstooth cloth for entry-grade models, while grade 2 continues with black Beat cloth and level 3 again has black Bamboo part-leather and part-cloth upholstery. This is also fitted to the new Venga 4. There is a new Grey Metal Grain paint finish for the centre fascia of Venga 1, 1 Air and 2, while high-gloss black continues to adorn Venga 3 and is replicated in the new Venga 4.

Split rear seats that slide fore and aft by up to 130mm allow the passenger accommodation to be stretched when maximum luggage capacity is not needed. Alternatively, a two-tier boot means that owners who occasionally need more than the standard 440 litres of cargo space can expand the luggage area simply by lowering the floor. The luggage compartment thus becomes 163mm taller, extending total volume to 570 litres. If more space is required, the rear seats have 'Fold & Dive' functionality, which makes them seem to disappear into the floor, creating a completely flat deck in a load area offering a cavernous 1,253 litres of space.

Specified

All models are extremely highly specified, and features previously unattainable with the Venga now appear in certain models. Tyre Pressure Monitoring is fitted to all versions, warning the driver of any potentially serious loss of pressure via a symbol in the instrument cluster. Automatic Light Control is now standard with Venga 3 and 4, and Venga 4 also has 'welcome' and 'follow-me-home' lighting.

Other unique features to Venga 4 are a smart key with engine start/stop button, a heated steering wheel activated by a control switch on the right-hand wheel spoke to complement the heated front seats fitted to Venga 3 and 4, and a panoramic sunroof. Venga 3 and 4 are also equipped with a 7-inch touchscreen satellite navigation system with European mapping and a Traffic Messaging Channel. The full-colour touchscreen also includes a reversing camera. The infotainment system, which is also accessed via the touchscreen, no longer includes a CD player due to the increasing trend among customers of using portable devices to play music. The high-quality six speaker audio system includes RDS radio, full MP3 compatibility and AUX and USB ports.

Standard across the range are driver's seat height adjustment, tilt and telescopic steering wheel adjustment, electric front windows, remote central locking, tinted glass, steering wheel-mounted audio controls, a front passenger armrest, body-coloured handles and door mirrors and electrically adjustable heated door mirrors.

Venga 2 models add alloy wheels, an iPod cable, Blue-tooth hands-free mobile phone operation with music streaming, rear electric windows, folding door mirrors and reversing sensors. Venga 3 versions come with climate control, front and rear electric windows, front fog lamps, privacy glass on the rear windows and tailgate and cruise control with a speed limiter.

For safety, all Vengas have six airbags, active front head restraints and two ISOFIX child-seat mounting points.

Every Venga has Kia's unique seven-year/100,000-mile warranty, subject to terms and conditions covering wear-and-tear items. It is transferable to future owners should the car be sold during the period of the warranty.



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Ford transit picks up award

By David Banner

The all-new Ford Transit Courier has received the top accolade at this year's What Van? Awards by winning Van of the Year 2015.

Ford continued its winning streak with the Transit Courier also picking up Small Van of the Year, the Transit Connect topping the Light Van category and Ranger collecting Pick-up of the Year.

The Ford Fiesta Van was also highly commended in its category, and the Transit Custom likewise in the Medium Van category.

"Ford's revolution of its light commercial line-up has seen it offer the most comprehensive range of high-quality vehicles in the marketplace, in terms of visual appeal, driver appeal, innovation, technology and efficiency," said What Van? editor, Paul Barker.

"This massive investment has culminated with our Van of the Year Transit Courier offering a massive step forward in the small van segment, succeeding our only ever twice-Van of the Year winner the Transit Custom, while the excellent new Transit Connect is also a worthy winner of the Light Van category."

The awards come at the end of a two-year overhaul of the entire Ford Transit range which included the addition this year of What Van's? Van of the Year: the Transit Courier.

Dagenham-built engine achieves 76.3mpg and 97g/km CO2 emissions,

and the multi-award-winning 1.0-litre EcoBoost offers 54.3mpg and 119g/km CO2 – 15 per cent better than its closest rival.

Additionally, the stylish all-new Ford Transit Courier offers 10 per cent more load volume than its direct competitors with 2.3m3 (SAE) behind the bulkhead, as well as a longer load length at floor level, and greater access width through the sliding side doors.

Sales of the Ford Transit continue to dominate, with both Transit and Transit Custom leading their segments with 26.6 per cent and 33 per cent market share YTD respectively.

The entire Ford commercial vehicle range will now be available from Ford's designated commercial dealer network, called Transit Centres, which will be rolled out across the country next year.

Terry Rayner, director, Transit Centres, Ford of Britain said: "I am delighted to receive the What Van? Van of the Year award for the Transit Courier – a Ford first in the small van segment. 2015 will be the first full year that the entire four-van Transit range will be available and will coincide with the launch of Ford's specialist commercial vehicle dealerships and service centres.

"Transit Centres will be rolled out in over 100 locations across the UK, plus a further 90 service only points, cementing Ford's position as the largest commercial vehicle dealer network nationally."

Additionally, the Ford Transit was a recent winner at the 2014 ACFO Awards, the premier organisation for fleet operators, winning Large Van of the Year for the fourth consecutive year.



'Ford's revolution of its light commercial line-up has seen it offer the most comprehensive range of high-quality vehicles in the marketplace.'

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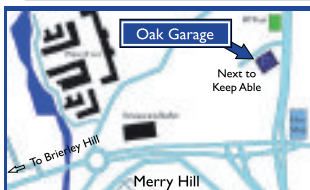
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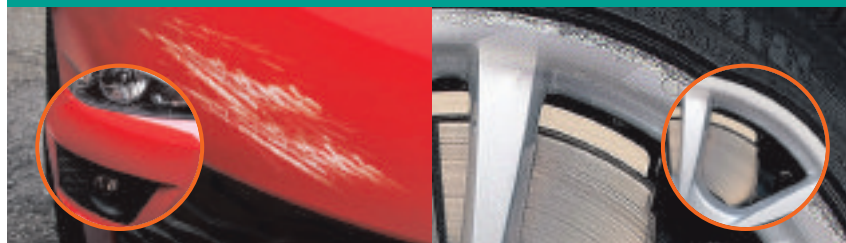
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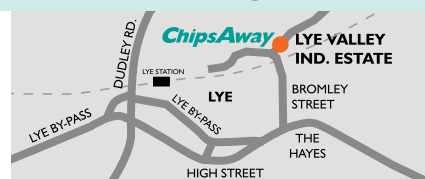
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NEW TUTORS WELCOME

2 Leisure Time

caravans / motorhomes

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January sale, 30ft x 10ft, two bedrooms, sleeps 6, on beautiful site in Malvern. Reduced for quick sale.
£8,000 ono.
07546 195434.

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2 berth, end washroom, mover, AL-Ko stabiliser, full awning, cooker, blown air heating, hot water system.
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LET US SELL YOUR CARAVAN for you and achieve the best possible price. Seven Valley Leisure, Stourbridge DY8 4HP. 01384 390183

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CARAVAN WANTED Able to collect straight away.
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CARAVAN/CAMPER wanted. Anything considered.
07770 763335.

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jumble sales / fetes

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3 Home & Services

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Seats 6, extendable, light wood, with 6 brown leather chairs, excellent condition.
Also matching unit with 2 drawers and 2 shelves.
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Leather Suite Italian cream 3 seater sofa plus 2 armchairs hardly used very good condition
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Top Soil, Building Sand
Paving/Concrete Sand
Decorative Gravels
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CASH PAID TODAY
A GENUINE LADY BUYER
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Pre'47 silver coins All war medals etc
ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING
01922 495066 or 07971 783206

READERS ARE ADVISED to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

A ABSOLUTELY BEST price given for single items or houses cleaned. Antique, old, reproduction. Call: 01384 482155 or 07902 475693.

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Will collect, cash waiting.
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A BEST CASH PRICE PAID

driveways & patios

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4 Pets & Animals

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guns & dogs

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pets corner

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All neutered, inoculated and chipped.
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Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:

1. Try to ensure you visit with its Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

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Needs a kind, responsible home, through no fault of his own.

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Lizzy, 2 year old Collie cross Staffy, friendly and affectionate girl.

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SPRINGER SPANIEL PUPPIES:
liver and white. Mother and Father can be seen. Father is working dog, 1st to see will buy, £500.

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WANTED. Avian birds for large private aviary. Also pigeons and poultry for beginner and parrot for house pet. 07970 485491.

5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

business directory

accountants

ACCOUNTANCY and Taxation services for Small Businesses. Fixed fees. Call 01902 343500

ACCOUNTS, BOOK KEEPING, PAYROLL, VAT. New start-ups welcome. Phone Clover on: 01384 453714 or 07715 510749.

6 Property

accommodation to let

A QUALITY FURNISHED room, own kitchen, TV, CH, cleaning, laundry all bills inclusive. £320pwn. No DSS. Near KFC Off Stafford Road, W-ton. 07957 595840.

NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1983, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

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DUDLEY/Halesowen, 1-2 bed flats/bungalow, deposit 1st neg. 0121 550 0064 / 07970 980955.

FOUR BEDROOM HOUSE to let in Netherton, CH, DG, EPC=D. £147 pwk. Call 07949 433966.

RECENTLY REFURBISHED 1 and 2 bed flats, Netherton, close to Merry Hill, DSS welcome. Call 01562 885668 or 07831 200692.

SHIFNAL / TETTENHALL 1/2 bed terrace, 1st neg. No DSS. 01384 401747 / 07940 116136.

SMART ROOMS in shared house in Netherton. Single £85pw. Double £95pw inc bills. No DSS. 01384 401747 / 07940 116136.

TWO BED Semi with loft bedroom, Penn, Wolverhampton, nice area £495pwn. 07730 565912.

accommodation wanted

DISABLED COUPLE

Require bungalow or Ground floor flat.
Wall Heath area.
Reasonable rent required.
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WANTED

bungalows

TWO BUNGALOWS SEMI DETACHED KIDDERMINSTER
Both two bedroom.
In need of modernisation.
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Four car workshop at rear.
Sold as one unit.
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Built 2006, NHBC Guarantee, full DG, full 80/20 wool carpets with blinds on all windows, ensuite, Master bedroom plus bathroom (1st floor).
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West Midlands DY9 7HS

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Email: acherrington@pedmoretc.dudley.sch.uk

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The post is for 37 hours per week - 40 weeks

The salary is Scale 6 (point 22-25) -

£18,010 to £19,752 per annum

An application pack is available via our website

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Closing date: Friday 23 January 2015

Pedmore Technology College and Community School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children & young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



8

Motoring

cars over £1500

AUDI A4 Cabriolet, 2002, 3.0 litre, silver, 78,000 miles, MoT, FSH, full leather, Bose stereo, £3,750 ono. 07809 408541

BMW X5 53, automatic, 3 litre petrol, 47k, blue, fsh, long MoT, tax, alloys, CD, private plate leather, good condition. £5,000 ono. 01902 673538.

CITROEN C1 VIBE 1.0 2008, 34,000 miles, black, 6 months MoT, 1 lady owner from new, insurance group 1, £2,990, 01562 886395.

CITROEN C2 1.6 VTS, 55 reg, 11 months MoT, FSH, 87,000 miles, black, well looked after, £1,750 ono. 07803 909920.

KIA RIO eco dynamics 2, 1.1 CRDI diesel, 2011 61, silver, new shape, 5dr, 6 speed, 69k, SH free road tax, £5,250. 07984 544409.

4x4

LANDROVER DEFENDER 110, 1998, S reg, 300TDi, MoT May 29, 2015, white, good runner, owned by me for 13 years, new van is reason for sale. £3,000. 01543 275765

MERCEDES 180 COMPRESSOR, 06 plate, silver, petrol, tinted glass, MoT Aug, excellent condition. £3,995. 07944 438513.

MITSUBISHI L200 CREW CAB PICK UP 05 plate, MoT August, 2.5 diesel, full spec, £3,250. Telephone 07812 387832.

RENAULT SCENIC 1500cc Diesel, 2007, 57k, 1 owner, tow bar fitted, full MoT £2,995. 07850 233858.

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 5dr hatchback, silver, auto, 05, 35,200 miles, MoT Sept 2015, excellent condition. £1,900. 01902 374411.

VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 1.4L, 2006, only 49,000 miles, reg, manual petrol, full 12 months MoT. £2,500. 07783 461716.

VW POLO 1.2S 2003, 03 plate, 5dr hatchback, petrol, 83k, CD, aircon, FSH, good clean excellent condition. £2,150. 01902 336421 / 07977 208733.

VW POLO, automatic, 53 plate, 5 door, approx 77,000 miles, fsh, 10 months MoT, £2,000 ono. Telephone 07769 254017.

VW POLO, automatic, 53 plate, 5 door, approx 77,000 miles, fsh, 10 months MoT, £1,300 ono. Telephone 07769 254017.

cars under £1500

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDER that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

FIAT PUNTO ACTIVE SPORT 1.2 16V, 2003, 53 plate, 94,000 miles, 12 months MoT. £950. Codsall area 07775 901378.

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Scrap It Legally CDD Given Instant Payment.
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TOP PRICE PAID 4 SCRAP CARS!
VANS! CAMPERS! MOT FAILURES!
ANYTHING CONSIDERED
FREE COLLECTION
WITHIN THE HOUR! 7 DAYS
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A BETTER PRICE for scrap or damaged cars and commercials. Spares for sale.
NINE LOCKS VEHICLE DISMANTLERS LTD
Brierley Hill 01384 76566 or 70553. Evenings 75397. DY5 3JZ.

vehicles wanted

alan reed cars
Used cars wanted for cash
Top prices paid, HP settled.
Buyer could call.
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CROWN MOTORS Guarantee best cash price for unwanted cars/vans. 07585 664389 / 07903 549849.

spares & accessories

accessories & services

TWO WHEELER towing dolly for cars and light commercials. £299. 01746 710440.

clutches / brakes / gearboxes

A CLUTCH CHANGE MOBILE
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JENNIFER ANNE PHILPOTTS (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 87 Hill Top Wollacott, Stourbridge West Midlands DY9 9BZ, who died on 06/11/2014, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Lawyers on or before 27/03/2015, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to Marie Hogg on 01902 731346 or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk (remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

MARGARET LOUISA BRANNON (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 84 Birmingham Street Stourbridge West Midlands DY8 1JH, who died on 02/11/2014, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned on or before 27/03/2015, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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ROBERT LITTLE (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 19 Bredon Avenue Stourbridge West Midlands DY9 7NR, who died on 10/12/2014, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Lawyers on or before 27/03/2015, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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personal

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GENTLEMAN, LATE 50'S
Seeking a lady between 40-55 for a long term relationship. I'm a very kind and trustworthy person, I live on my own and am self employed, I'm very outgoing, I enjoy walking, going out for meals and going on holiday.
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Would like to meet another gentleman for holidays, football, fun outings.
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Box Number P19650, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

LADY VERY EARLY 70'S
Would like to meet Gentleman similar age, homely, kind, caring, must have Family ties, either Children or Sisters and Brothers, Nieces and Nephews, someone who likes animals, cookery, music with GSOH.
Box Number P19634 , Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

LOCAL GENTLEMAN 77
N/S, solvent, lives one bus ride from outside Wolverhampton. WLTm local Lady of the same, for Friendship, trips, company, holidays.
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WIDOW, LATE 60'S
n/s, likes travel, cinema, theatre and walks, WLTm gentleman 60 to 80 to share doing these things with.
Box Number C19639, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

YOUNG LADY LATE 30'S
Larger build, very bubbly, loving, kind, caring and honest. Has Children, own home and works full time.
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KAREN 50, widow, 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks gent with GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415871

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. Tel No: 0905 002 1883 Box No: 413399

GWEN middle aged, 65-75, 5ft 2ins, likes theatre, country music, holidays, seeks N/S male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415785

LUCY, 32yrs, blonde lady seeks naughty boys of any age for no strings fun. Tel No: 0905 002 1887 Box No: 413443

ASIA very attractive slim single black 32yr female looking for fun times with good time guy with GSOH and a real passion for life and falling in love. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415837

ADVENTUROUS sexy lady, 38yrs, married but seeks no strings fun with discreet man, 17m tall, slim and dominant. Aca. Tel No: 0905 002 1937 Box No: 415301

SARAH 31yrs looking for casual 1-2-1 no strings fun with broadminded bored male. Status unimportant, discretion and mutual respect essential. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415821

LUCY, broadminded 18yrs seeks discreet fun with men any age. Aca. Tel No: 0905 002 1941 Box No: 365051

LINDA uncomplicated female who loves the simple things in life, looking for N/S male with GSOH for nights in/out, no games, users or time wasters please. s. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415535

SEXY brunette, mid 20's busy, adventurous broad minded seeks no strings fun. Tel No: 0905 002 1949 Box No: 361739

PATRICIA widow 67, likes simple pleasures in life, seeks gent, N/S for friendship/companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415685

SALLY, 38yrs large cuddly lady seeks slim men for discreet meetings. Text Only 4550193

KAREN 50, widow, blonde hair, GSOH, 5ft 5ins, slim, seeks male, Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415767

TRUDY 36yrs, wtlm broadminded men of any age/area for daytime meetings. Text Only 4550194

GEM 34yr old pretty brunette with lovely big eyes and nice skin, many interests, WLTm kind tallish male, 30-50yrs for serious relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415571

MELANIE, 38, slim, blonde and bored. Call if you want no strings fun. Text Only 4550198

SYLVIA attractive blonde size 12 45yr old female looking for genuine companionship, someone to spend quality times with, enjoy music and cosy times together. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415543

JENNI, 52 bored housewife wants no strings fun with younger chap. Text Only 4550197

HOME alone far too often, attractive bubbly fun good time girl 32yrs seeking male 30-50yrs for broadminded daytime fun. Let's rid the boredom! Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415523

SUE attractive, independent, confident female, sporty, petite, loves the Arts, good books, looking for romantic, sensitive nice guy for nice times together. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415501

KAREN medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415429

AMANDA 5ft 4ins slim fit attractive, enjoys the outdoors, nice wine, theatre etc. seeking romantic considerate soul male to broaden my horizons. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415391

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SAM attractive single mum who really enjoys life and likes to be happy WLTm genuine single male/dad for mutual companionship, dates in/out and tic. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415381

KAREN medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415429

23YR old Asian female, seeks sugar daddy, any age for fun and much more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415367

YOUNG looking female, likes rock music, concerts, theatre, seeks Rock male with similar interests for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415249

MANDY very attractive, slim single mum 36yrs, employed, OHAC, looking to share some quality times with similar genuine kind hearted social male/dad. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415409

DIANE attractive singleton seeks male to have some fun with, meals out, cinema, dancing and just see were things lead from there. Age/area unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415373

SHEILIA Asian 20yr old female, very pretty, feminine with long hair, enjoys nights in and out, seeking mature white male 55plus for discreet fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415181

MARGARET 39, attractive active female likes animals, reading, meals in/out, seeking considerate partner for good laughs, companionship, shared interests and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414727

KAREN 50, widow, likes swimming, horse riding, keep fit, clay pigeon shooting, GSOH, N/S, non drinker, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415211

BUBBLY larger than life 28yr old blonde bombshell, seeks large built male to fulfil my every fantasy! Give me a call; I will totally make your day maybe even your year. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414977

BARBARA 38 slim sporty attractive blonde, varied interests, single and ready to date, seeks kind honest guy for shared interests, fun nights out, hopefully leading to more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414967

JULIE single petite attractive big blue eyed brunette, loves cooking a cosy meal in, nights out, searching for real love with genuine nice guy. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414491

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GOOD looking professional lady, 56, enjoys the arts, country walks, meals out, seeks compatible, genuine, professional gent to enjoy the good things in life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415007

ANGIE 38yrs slim blonde, ex model with lovely long legs with shapely figure, fit, toned, sporty, confident but warm, WLTm similar perspective, sensitive individual for life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414723

BECKY stunning big blue eyed 38yr old honest, caring and fun person looking for nice times - within similar guy, status/age unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414391

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere, N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. West Midlands. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414773

SUSAN 64, lively, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411329

NICOLA 32, blue eyes, petite, pretty brunette, shy at first, trustworthy, caring, varied hobbies, seeks male/single dad up to 40yrs for tic possible ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414707

TARA 22 tall slim but curvy with legs that go all the way up to heaven, WLTm very appreciative confident male for adult fun. Contact me anytime. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414701

KAREN petite 34yr old attractive blonde, likes pubs, clubs, meals out, gym, looking for honest caring guy who can make me laugh. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414373

CATH 37yr old very bored housewife seeking bored male for some fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414497

ANN looking for no strings adult fun broadminded and great fun, blonde, attractive and discreet. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414363

JANE 5ft5ins blue eyed attractive curvy mature student with happy disposition, enjoys meals or drinks in/out, keeping fit, walking, seeking genuine fun male with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414229

ARE you Mr Wonderful? Lesley attractive slim auburn haired fit lady who loves life and fully intends to live it to the full, seeking similar caring, patient man. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414213

KATY 26 slim beautiful discreet blue eyed blonde looking for mature gent for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414208

ANNABELL 29 slim tanned beautiful sophisticated sensual brunette, loves the high life, Champaign lunches, weekends away, seeks very own sugar daddy for sweet nothings. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414191

SARAH 38yr old bored blonde seeking single guys up for some good times, chats and discreet meets. Looking forward to hearing from you. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414177

EMS 32yrs petite young looking, pretty, likes swimming, walking, talking etc, seeking honest bloke or dad up to 40yrs for fun adult friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413853

JULIE loving, caring, honest, seeks real gent to share conversation and have a great time, friendship/relationship, who knows? Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412777

SALLY stunning lady looking for dinner dates, partying and generally having a good time with generous man looking for his mejo! No strings, go on call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412599

DEBB petite attractive auburn haired, good listener, romantic, enjoys socialising, cosy nights in with Mr Right, seeking similar caring N/S single dad. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412387

JAN slim curvy professional warm, affectionate, looking to fill full time vacancy with similar male who loves cuddles/kisses and bikes for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412167

ATTRACTIVE slim brunette, 47, N/S, seeks tall, slim male for a cut above the average relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412725

KAREN pretty blonde, short in stature, big personality, keeps fit, loves dogs, seeking honest, caring male who can make me laugh. Nothing too serious just fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412377

JEAN petite female who enjoys golf, days out, cosy evenings in, holidays, WLTm older male in his 60's with a good personality and big heart. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412359

JULIE really fun loving slim pretty female 38 looking for nice guy to go out with, get to know and hopefully enjoy a relationship with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411517

GWENDOLINE honest, trustworthy, seeks caring gent who enjoys cinema, theatre, holidays and nights out for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412293

DIANE voluptuous curvy and all woman, loves dancing, walking, cosy nights in, WLTm nice man for friendship, hopefully leading to something more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412321

SARA bored blonde looking for single gents for fun, chats and meals, looking forward to hearing from you, don't be shy. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412055

EMMA petite young looking 31yr old attractive single brunette, loves walking, talking, music, seeks honest romantic 30-40yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412037

SONYA slim attractive vibrant lady with GSOH, social nature, if/active, WLTm N/S male up to 60yrs for romantic genuine respectful relationship, loving. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413441

EMMA petite slim blue eyed blonde 22yrs, likes cinema, dancing/music, just chillin, seeking easygoing male for fun and good times but nothing serious. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413207

EUROPEAN beauty romantic, caring, attentive, looking for loving male to enjoy warm loving relationship, call me to find out more. Aca. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413013

KAREN 34 blue/green eyed size 12 attractive brunette who loves pubs, cosy nights in, kids, seeking special honest guy/dad for poss ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413005

ROSA 27 sexy senorita seeking older handsome prince charming to whisk me off my feet, enjoy fun times, improve my English and fall in love with. Age/area unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412927

RITA attractive blonde with a very kind heart seeks special man to share my life with. Please get in touch if like me you are fed up with always being the single friend. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412987

JAN 5ft8ins slim pretty lady in great shape, open-minded, laidback, GSOH, OHAC, many interests, WLTm someone for cuddling up with and to share good and bad times. Aca. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412931

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SALLY stunning lady looking for dinner dates, partying and generally having a good time with generous man looking for his mejo! No strings, go on call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412599

DEBB petite attractive auburn haired, good listener, romantic, enjoys socialising, cosy nights in with Mr Right, seeking similar caring N/S single dad. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412387

JAN slim curvy professional warm, affectionate, looking to fill full time vacancy with similar male who loves cuddles/kisses and bikes for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412167

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JEAN petite female who enjoys golf, days out, cosy evenings in, holidays, WLTm older male in his 60's with a good personality and big heart. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412359

JULIE really fun loving slim pretty female 38 looking for nice guy to go out with, get to know and hopefully enjoy a relationship with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411517

GWENDOLINE honest, trustworthy, seeks caring gent who enjoys cinema, theatre, holidays and nights out for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412293

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SARA bored blonde looking for single gents for fun, chats and meals, looking forward to hearing from you, don't be shy. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412055

EMMA petite young looking 31yr old attractive single brunette, loves walking, talking, music, seeks honest romantic 30-40yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412037

ANNABELL 29 slim sophisticated well travelled interesting sensual fit brunette with lots to offer seeks older male to appreciate and treat me well. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412177

KAREN slim, tall, attractive 36yr old normal female who likes shopping, socialising, nights in/out seeking thoughtful genuine male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412041

KIM 25yrs feminine, pretty, big blue eyes, GSOH, varied interests, likes romantic beach walks, cosy nights in, seeking honest loving man for ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411777

CAROL young 47, caring, loyal, likes music, concerts, cinema, theatre, seeks male with similar interests for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919

PROFESSIONAL black lady, likes cooking, music, countryside, seeking honest, reliable gent, possibly farmer for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411763

VICKY 37yr professional, mum to one, sensual and very attractive, looking for a real one, tall, fit, sincere and passionate to enjoy each other's company. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411695

LUCY beautiful busty bubbly blonde 32yrs, seeking naughty boy to enjoy the fun side of life with, age, status and looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411691

LINDA single and living alone, attractive, young looking, bubbly, WLTm similar young at heart companion to be close with, enjoy chats and romantic dates. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411019

WIDOW 68, 5ft 5ins, medium build, attractive, likes walks, reading, holidays, seeks sincere, N/S male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411745

JEAN young at heart lady, active, 70 plus, N/S, GSOH, likes walks, gardening, outings, WLTm sincere, caring male, 69-74 for companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411717

TINA sexy black female looking for healthy distractions with fun adult companion, interested? You won't be disappointed, give me a call. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411519

LYNNE young looking attractive Indian female with GSOH and down to earth attitude, looking for likeminded male for date nights, hopefully more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411219

EMMIE 50, attractive brunette, 5ft 3ins, OHAC, likes country walks, music, reading, seeks genuine, friendly, professional male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411281

RETIRED happy, caring, attractive female, likes gardening, travel, animals, comedy, seeks tall, funny, kind chap, Shropshire. 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411459

RITA naughty 40's petite pretty female looking for that special man in my life, any age, to get to know and see what happens, you only live once remember! 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410955

SUE 34, likes most things in life, even football! looking for my Mr Wonderful though I would give this a try. Come on what do we have to lose, call me. 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410765

CAROL slim attractive blonde, sporty, easy going, broadminded looking for likeminded male with plenty of va va voom, 35-45. 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409717

SUE 38, attractive broadminded attentive, enjoys meals in/out etc, not necessarily looking for Mr Right as Mr Wrong or even Mr Right now could be fun! Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411049

NICK 52, 6ft, slim, genuine, seeking slim female for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415881

38 year old male, likes cycling, country walks, and watching films, athletic build, 6ft tall hazel eyes would like to meet sincere lady. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4612487

ROY 6ft 2ins, late 50's, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414775

GENT 53, 5ft 11ins, brown eyes, distinguished, seeking attractive lady, 30-45 for discreet fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415809

JAMES, hard working single dad, late 30's seeks single mum for family days out. Text Only 4550196

45YR old male, 5ft 10ins, muscular, outgoing, adventurous, genuine, seeking lasting loving relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415873

JOHN, 42yrs professional genuine gent seeks caring lady to treat as a princess. Text Only 4550195

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80099 costs £1.53 per message. To STOP text: 80099

JAS 40, looking for attractive young female for good times and socialising. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415805

FIT 68yr old male, feels 40, looks 30, genuine, seeks N/S female 66-72 with GSOH to share fun times and LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415787

MARK 6ft, slim, blue eyes, dark hair, seeking that special lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415697

MALE 47, medium build, seeks female, 40-50 for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415651

JOHN 46, West Midlands, seeks local black/Asian female, 30-70 for discreet adult fun, can travel. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415591

MALE seeking fun bubbly female, 21-30. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415473

GENTLEMAN retired, N/S, seeking lady for companionship and sharing good times with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415609

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Yeltz claw back lead twice to grab win

Halesowen Town 4 Matlock Town 3
HARD-WORKING Halesowen turned around a half-time deficit after playing for almost an hour with 10 men in a seven-goal thriller.
Halesowen went ahead after just five minutes through captain Joe Hull but the lead wasn't to last too long as Matlock struck back.
But James Ashmore struck twice as the Gladiators snatched a shock half-time lead after home forward Aaron Daniels received a straight red card in the 35th minute.
Ashmore equalised with an unstoppable thunderbolt into the top angle and converted a penalty two minutes later.
The comeback was started when Ben Haseley made it 2-2 in the 50th minute with an excellent finish from a free-kick which was taken quickly.
The Yeltz regained the lead at 3-2 in the 58th minute when a fierce drive from Griffiths deflected past goalkeeper Jon Kennedy.
With time running out, Halesowen hearts seemed to have been broken when Matlock substitute Jason Stokes headed home.
But Muhammed Sabo turned Curtis Tilt's shot into his own net.

Ryan putts down his mark in US

ACE golfer Ryan Cornfield is following in the footsteps of his idols with a scholarship to an American university to play his favourite sport.
The 20-year-old, from Gornal, is playing at the University of South Carolina alongside studying a psychology degree.
He has already played in several competitions and even won freshman student athlete of the year.
Ryan said: "I was actually always a big time footballer growing up and didn't take an interest in golf until I was about 11."
Ryan won the competitive Kiawah Island Classic competition in Charleston County with a university record of six under 66.

Chess club starts the new year with a flurry

THE new year started with a flurry for Stourbridge Chess Club with four matches over three days.
The Birmingham division 5 team hosted Solihull.
The match did not go quite according to plan. First to finish were the two top boards who both drew while team captain Steve Alcock was material down on board four.
Board five Chris Williamson won a pawn in the opening and converted this to a win. This was followed by a win for Colin Woodall on board three.
Steve Alcock still material down went for an all out attack and managed to salvage a

Chess
draw. Martin Berridge went three pawns up in a rook ending and his opponent resigned. So the result was 4.5-1.5 to Stourbridge.
A good result in the end keeping the pressure up on Redditch who are now just four points ahead of SCC who have two games in hand.
Stourbridge are now second three points clear of Birmingham.
On the same night defending champions and title challenging Wolverhampton Di-

vision 1 team hosted newly promoted and anticipating relegation Boldmere.
SCC had three reserves playing, but fortunately, Boldmere were also not at their strongest.
Stourbridge outgraded the opposition on all six boards, so had every reason to hope for a good outcome. All six games seemed very tight.
Acting captain Paul Sharratt on board six was first to finish when his opponent misjudged the position and allowed Sharratt to play a pin winning a bishop.
His opponent then resigned. This was followed by Eric Horwill, Greg Dyett and John

Foxall agreeing draws, so we were 2.5-1.5 ahead. Nick Arkell was next to finish, winning on time and securing the match victory. Jeremy Fallowfield completed a very satisfactory evening for Stourbridge with a win which left us 4.5-1.5 ahead.
So that was 12 games with six wins, six draws and two won matches.
SCC's second team visited Halesowen in Birmingham division 3. Both teams were at full strength.
Steve Jukes succumbed, and Julie and Dave had to settle for draws. The score was 4-2 to Halesowen, the bogey team over the last 2 seasons had struck again.

Clegg is the new Heathens skipper

CRADLEY skipper Max Clegg has given the new-look Heathens side the thumbs-up.
Clegg, who returned to the track in practice at the weekend, has been handed the No.1 spot in the 2015 team to defend the National League title.
He will also take over from Paul Starke as the club's new skipper as they prepare for life at Perry Barr after losing the use of Wolverhampton.
Clegg will be joined by Nathan Greaves and Matt Williamson from last season's all-conquering side and Luke Harris is also included after making some guest appearances.
Ellis Perks, Aaron Mogridge and Mike Neale are the new signings and Clegg says they are looking good.
He added: "This year's team is looking good."
Clegg will be unveiled along with the rest of the Heathens side as they host a Season Launch night at the Copthorne Hotel, Brierley Hill, on Wednesday, March 11 (7.30pm).
Tickets (£5) are on sale for the event, after the clubs' press and practice day at Perry Barr. They are available on cradleyheathens.co or from, Printworx, Quarry Bank High Street.

Khalsa's keeper is the killer

Dudley Town 1 Sporting Khalsa 1 (Khalsa win 3-2 pens)
A brilliant performance by Khalsa keeper James Pemberton helped Sporting Khalsa into the semi-finals of the West Midlands League Cup.
The deadlock was broken five minutes before the interval when Rhys Morgan poked past the onrushing Pemberton to give the home side the lead.
Craig Bannister levelled things up for Khalsa with header.
Pemberton was the hero, saving kicks from Alex Perry, Ben Jordan and Ashman while Lee Wherton, Mike Perks and Brad Lawley sent Ian Rowe's side into the semi-finals.

Glassboys slump to fourth away defeat

Ashton United 3 Stourbridge 0
STOURBRIDGE boss Gary Hackett saw his side slump to a fourth straight away defeat at a blustery Hurst Cross Stadium.
Defender Josh Quaynor lined up for his first game in defence and there was also a first start for Reece Weeb, a teenage midfielder on loan from Birmingham City.
But the new-look Glassboys still struggled against an Ashton outfit just outside the play-off places.
The home side should have opened the scoring after just eight minutes when Kayde Cappin managed to put a close-range effort wide of the target with the goal at his mercy.
But on 29 minutes, Gary Gee headed a Dale Johnson cross past Stour keeper Dean Coleman.
Ashton doubled their lead within four minutes of the restart.
The Glassboys failed to clear Brad Robinson's free-kick and Cappin powered his effort beyond Coleman.
Ashton lost Greg Pearson to a thigh injury at half time, reverting to 4-4-2 as Martin Pilkington replaced him and with the weather mercifully relenting slightly the game was made safe within 10 minutes of the restart.
Robinson sprayed a free kick wide to Greg Pearson who saw his cross glanced wide of the far post by Ashley Young and on 20 minutes.
Sam Wilson's ball into the box saw Johnson seemingly dragged over but Ashton still remain penal-

Bournville overcome battling DK squad



Matt Squires brought to the ground by the Bournville defence during a tough away match

Bournville 22 DK 9
After 14 minutes DK was penalised for the tackler not releasing. Bournville shunned the kick at goal opting to kick for the corner.
From the resulting lineup they secured possession and formed a rolling maul with hooker Danny Griffin being driven over the line for the opening score.
The try went unconverted.
DK's aggressive tackling began to put Bournville under pressure which led to them giving away a penalty in the 20th minute. This time they elected to kick for goal and Jamie Hearn duly added the three points.
Hearn then kicked a penalty.
In the 26th minute, and against the run of play, Bournville regained the lead.
Flyhalf Scot Harman broke from deep inside the Bournville half and kicked ahead. Winger Ashley Knight won the chase to touch down for the try. Scott Harman then added the extra points.
Hearn then added three penalty points.
In the second half the big heavy Bournville pack began to take control and were totally dominant.
Adam Woodfield crossed for a Bournville try.
On full time Bournville's Ned Stephenson scored.



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Yeltz get hotshot striker from Utd

HALESOWEN Town have won the battle to sign highly-regarded striker Aaron Lloyd from ground tenants Causeway United.

Redditch United and Tividale were both understood to have been interested in the 21-year-old forward but he has opted to join the Yeltz.

Halesowen boss John Hill says the former Stourbridge and Shrewsbury youngster fits the bill to keep improving his Evo-Stik Northern Premier squad. He is set for his debut in Saturday's home game against Matlock.

"At 21, Aaron has been around the non-League scene for the past four seasons. With this signing, we are looking after the future of our football club as we continue to push on," said Hill.

Stourbridge will be able to call on Brentford prospect Kieran Morris for another month after extending his loan.

The 19-year-old defender has impressed with Gary Hackett's side after joining last month and the two clubs have agreed to continue the deal until February 8.

Wilson signed up by Jackett

WOLVES have secured the permanent signing of another 'one of the future' after striker Donovan Wilson secured his move from Bristol Rovers.

The 17-year-old's capture was expected to be a formality when the transfer window reopened, having joined on loan in November.

Wolves have paid an undisclosed fee, which could rise long-term through appearance-based add-on clauses.

Bristol-born Wilson was highly-rated by Rovers and had made the first-team bench on several occasions, having come through the club's youth set-up. He will now join up with Wolves' Under-18 squad for the foreseeable future, but has also been making sporadic appearances for the Under-21s.

He said: "I'm happy to be at the club."

Fitness a factor as Lions are taken out

Old Saltleians 44 Lions 7

THE Lions travelled to second-placed Old Saltleians with one of their strongest squads of the season so far but ended well beaten.

They came up against a well-drilled and fitter home side with possibly the best co-ordinated back line and the sharpest scrum-half in the league.

The Lions opened against a strong wind and found themselves seven points down within two minutes, the ball being ripped from an unsupported Lions player and returned 40metres. The 10 minutes later a

Rugby

break by the home 10 ended with a try for a 12-0 lead.

The Lions pulled themselves together and, with a dominant set scrum put huge pressure on the Salts for around 20 minutes but were repelled by a combination of good tackling and persistent offside, evidenced by the 11-3 penalty count in the Lions' favour and a sin-bin for a home lock.

Despite this the half ended with a penalty goal for the home side, who led 15-0 at

the break. The Lions had hope for the second half with the wind behind them and a stronger set scrum.

The second half was, however, a disaster, although the Lions did manage a converted try by Wilson.

By then the match was long gone, with 29 points and five tries to a home outfit that were simply fitter, faster to the breakdown and more purposeful in attack.

A usually good defence was at times torn to shreds and players who normally wouldn't miss tackles were being beaten or bypassed. Salts merely played disciplined,

tough rugby and, crucially compared to the Lions, kept the ball and passed it out of contact.

No matter that Salts had beaten several other teams, including Kidderminster, Camp Hill and Moseley Oak, by large margins at home, this was the poorest half the Lions had played all season.

Although Sam Robinson prodded and probed at stand-off, players were not running on to the ball at pace and putting doubt in the home defence. What was worrying was the lack of fitness compared to Salts.

Tipton down by four-ce

Tipton 0 AFC Wulfs 4

A brace from Andy Thompson helped AFC Wulfrunians to a 4-0 victory against Tipton Town in the Midland League Premier Division.

Thompson opened the scoring after just 11 minutes when he fired in from the edge of the area.

He turned provider for the second goal, latching on to a Liam Bood pass and setting up Jamie King to crash the ball in off the underside of the bar.

A goal-line scramble could have put the visitors out of sight before half-time. David Howells saw his header saved, Thompson saw his shot blocked and Bood saw his effort saved before the ball was eventually cleared.

Just after the break, King went past two defenders with ease, but his low shot from the edge of the area was tipped away by Tipton keeper Jack Hayfield.

Danny Tipton's only save of the game came when he had to push away Tipton substitute Ian Millward's long-range effort with 70 minutes played.

After 80 minutes Thompson added his second. Craig Gregg to completed the scoring four minutes from time.

Villa aim to net Spaniard Carles

ASTON Villa look poised to confirm the signing of Carles Gil from Valencia.

Valencia valued attacking midfielder Gil around £6million but Villa are understood to have negotiated over the fee as they did not want to pay over £4million.

The 22-year-old is expected to sign a five-year deal.

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketterly, Telford, Thursday, January 15

STOURBRIDGE SEE LEAD SNATCHED

Stourbridge 12 Huddersfield RUFC 24

WITH a 12-3 lead Stour looked in control against Huddersfield.

But the visitors pulled a soft try back just before half time and the loss of player/coach Jon Higgins to injury seemed to dent Stour's confidence, conceding 2 further tries that condemned them to defeat after a sterile 2nd half performance they will be keen to forget.

The visitors drew first blood when a Stour scrum was penalised, outside half Chris Bell nailing the kick at goal. Stour were struggling to apply pressure, having conceded early turn-overs they kicked a penalty into the visitors' 22 but the lineout ball went loose.

Back they came, Mark George tackled just short of the line but Stour unable to drive a maul to cough up possession again.

Wayward

They hit back when Moore seized a wayward lineout throw, after a set of drives Higgins' cut-out pass found Ryan and Stef Cook-sammy in the backline.

Nathan Bressington cantered over in the corner.

Huddersfield looked to drive a maul clear of their 22 but great work by George stripped the ball, it came to scrum half Jacob Nash who hared through a gap to score.

A clearance kick found the visitors still deep in their own territory, but as the clock ran down their forwards broke through.

Elliot Hodgson picked a good line to round his de-

Rugby

fender and score behind the posts.

The hosts started the second half at pace, drawing an offside penalty near halfway but a careless handling error gifted possession straight back.

A series of miscued kicks put Stour under pressure in their own 22, Huddersfield countered wide and with the defence stretched replacement Ben Morrill managed to evade four indifferent tackle attempts to score.

As bodies started to tire Huddersfield finished the stronger, camping out in the Stour half where Hodgson carved out a break and was only denied when an offload was adjudged forward.

Huddersfield crossed the Stour line shortly after but was also called back.

The visitors opted to kick at goal from a penalty award, it drifted wide but the rushed clearance missed touch and they piled the pressure back on.

Huddersfield winger Dave Hall spotted nobody at home behind the breakdown and breezed through for the final score.



Stourbridge replacement Sione Tu'ipolotu looks to pass the ball during the match against Huddersfield

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OPENING HOURS: Mon-Thurs 11.30am - 11pm, Fri - Sat 11.30am-12pm, Sun 11.30am - 10.45pm



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